

THE AGAWAM

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September 13, 1979

Controversy Again Marks Meeting Of School Committee

By Joanne Brown

Veiled hostility and firmly-controlled tempers marked last Tuesday's meeting of the School Committee in which members discussed a motion placed on the floor by Committeeman Walter Balboni to rescind the vote of the August 28th meeting to hire Louis J. Hebert as the new Superintendent of Schools at a salary of \$35,350. With the absence of Committee member Roberta Doering, the vote to rescind ended in a 3-3 tie and was, therefore, defeated.

Balboni "Assured" Of Special Meeting

Immediately after the meeting was called to order, Balboni opened discussion by asking that the fact that when he left the August 28th meeting, he had been "assured there would be a special meeting called" to discuss the hiring of a new superintendent be inserted in the minutes of that meeting. Chairman Richard Borgatti admitted he had made a statement which led Balboni to leave with that assumption.

Committee member Jessie Fuller, reading from a prepared statement, also asked that her comments be inserted into the minutes of the August 28th meeting. She insisted that it be recorded that before voting on the motion to hire Hebert, she had questioned the legality of such a vote with only four committee members present and was assured by Chairman Borgatti, who said he had consulted with Attorney John Teahen, that such a vote was legal.

Mrs. Veneta Snyder then read a letter from Balboni formally requesting that a motion to rescind the 4-0 vote be placed on the agenda for September 11th. This motion was seconded by Committee member Joseph Napolitan.

Vote "Morally And Ethically Wrong"

Detailing how he had left the August 28th meeting at 10:19 p.m. with the assurance of the chairman that a special meeting would be called, Balboni claimed the vote to begin negotiating with Hebert for the position was "morally and ethically wrong." He flatly stated, "It was a despicable act by the members who voted at that time on an issue of such grave importance."

Borgatti challenged this by stating that it was his responsibility to entertain any motion legally placed on the floor of a meeting that was still in session with a majority of members present. He said he cannot deny that Balboni left the meeting under the assumption no vote would be taken, but that he couldn't refuse to take action when the motion was made.

"I know it doesn't look good," declared Borgatti, "but I couldn't deny Mrs. Doering the privilege of making a motion with a majority of committee members present."

Borgatti emphasized how difficult it has been to hold meetings with a full complement of the board present. He stated that the members who left the August 28th meeting knew a report from the New Jersey school system where Hebert is now employed was to be made and that, barring an emergency, they should have been present.

Both Balboni and Napolitan replied that nothing was on the agenda to so indicate this and could see no great rush to take action on hiring a new superintendent as the school system is functioning smoothly as is for now.

Vote Does Not Mean Hebert's Hired

Mrs. Veneta Snyder wanted the record to show clearly that the 4-0 vote to hire Hebert at a salary of \$35,350 was only the beginning of negotiating a contract with him. "We have not yet hired a new superintendent," she emphasized. "What we did was simply to take the next-to-the-last step in doing so. Now we must get into the actual contract negotiations with this individual candidate before officially voting to hire him."

Heated emotions became involved as the members on both sides of the issue debated whether it was right to take the vote at the August 28th meeting. At one point, Mrs. Fuller asked Balboni point-blank, "What did you want me to do that night? Walk out and not vote my conscience? I'm hearing that all over the community."

Chairman Borgatti reminded the committee that he believed Hebert to be the Number 1 candidate because of a previous 7-0 vote declaring him such. "I believed him to be Number 1 and pursued that even though it's been difficult to do with members leaving the meetings all the time," he explained.

Motion For Reconsideration Denied

After the motion to rescind the 4-0 vote was defeated, Balboni asked that reconsideration of the issue be placed on the agenda for the next School Committee meeting. Attorney Teahen told the committee that such consideration was out of order according to Roberts Rules, which state a move for reconsideration cannot be made unless by a member of the prevailing side of a vote. With a tie vote, there is no prevailing side and, therefore, no motion to reconsider can be made.

As the issue now stands, the 4-0 vote to hire Hebert at a salary of \$35,350 authorizes the committee chairman to negotiate further with Hebert.

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Airport Committee Stresses Growth

Acknowledging that industrial development must coincide with the expansion of Bowles Airport, the Airport Acquisition Committee agreed to be bullish on lining up would-be tenants for the 287 acre site.

Conduct Study

The six member committee met for the first time Monday. Last week, Town Manager Peter Caputo appointed the committee to conduct a feasibility study on purchasing the property now owned by the Republican Company, the same outfit that owns the Springfield Newspapers.

Committee member Charles Lukas presented Councilor Paul Fieldstad, the committee's chairman, with a list of ten prospective tenants to help develop the locale into a municipal airport and industrial park. Fieldstad said that in order to sell the idea of purchasing the acreage, the committee should forward a list of "written commitments" from light industrial interests to the town council.

"We really don't want to give people the impression that we are tying anyone down by signing the agreement," Fieldstad said. "We just want to have an idea of what we can bring to the town council."

Available After January 1

The going price for the parcel, according to member Clayton Fuller, is approximately \$1 million. Fuller said the property will be available for sale after January 1, 1980. To that point, Fuller continued, Pioneer Valley Raceway Inc. holds option to buy.

Fuller said Sidney R. Cook, the Republican Company's president and treasurer, was told during their recent conversation about the parcel that Agawam "was in no position to offer anything at this point."

The committee is banking on financial assistance from both state and federal agencies, including the Massachusetts Aeronautical Commission, the Federal Aviation Commission and the Economic Development Agency.

Fuller suggested that the municipality own just the expanded runway, proposed by Lukas, while private investors would buy the parcels. Fieldstad agreed and recommended that the town serve as a holding company for the land.

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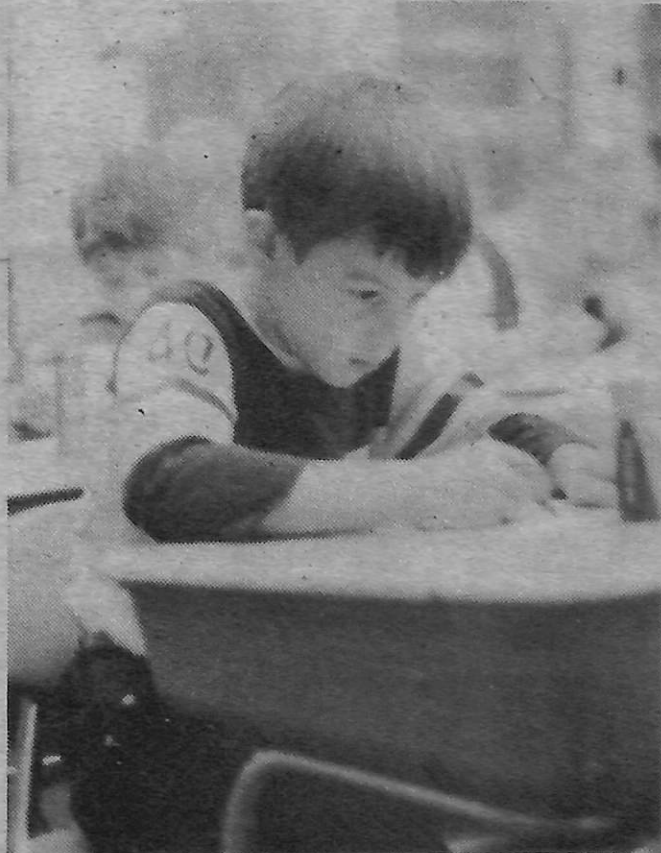


A tense Richard Borgatti, chairman of the School Committee, photo by Jack Devine

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SUPER FOOTBALL SPECIAL PAGES 7-14



1st grader, Frank Demarinis, displays a studious demeanor as he settles down to the three R's. When asked what he liked best about school, he promptly replied "Recess and lunch". photo by GAL

Phelps P.T.O. Meeting Planed

The Phelps School P.T.O. will begin their yearly meetings on Wednesday, September 19. The meeting will begin at 8 p.m. Please come and meet your school committee. Plans will be discussed for activities for the new school year.

Vote!! Vote!! Vote!!

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School Lunch Menus

AGAWAM LUNCH MENU

Friday, Sept. 14: Cod fish kabobs w/tartar sauce or ketchup, oven french fries, creamy cabbage & carrot salad, ice cream cup, milk.

Monday, Sept. 17: Chilled juice, cheese pizza w/tomato sauce, crisp garden salad w/shredded carrots and Italian dressing, chilled fruit cup, milk

Tuesday, Sept. 18: Grilled cheese sandwich, pickle chips, buttered diced carrots, potato puffs, chocolate pudding w/topping, milk

Wednesday, Sept. 19: Potted beef cubes in gravy on mashed potatoes, buttered mixed vegetables, whole wheat bread and butter, sweet potato spice cake, milk

Thursday, Sept. 20: Chilled juice, hamburger in roll, buttered seven minute cabbage, cheese fingers, cherry jello w/whip topping, milk

Friday, Sept. 21: Filet of haddock sandwich w/tartar sauce or ketchup, oven French fries, buttered kernal corn, ice cream, milk.

Elementary Band Kick-Off

Grade Five pupils in Agawam's schools are excitedly listening to instrumental demonstrations by area professional musicians, and choosing the instrument they would like to play when lessons begin the week of Sept. 24th.

Mrs. Sally Lowell, Elementary Band Instructor, foresees even greater interest in instrumental study this year from the trend of enrollments already received. Agawam schools offer 5th grade beginners, instruction in flute, clarinet, trumpet, and trombone with rotating 30 minute classes scheduled during school hours. In addition to weekly lessons, young bandsmen all play together for a 40 minute period each week.

Instrumental teachers performing in school demonstration are: Danté Pilegi-flute and clarinet; David Baldock-trumpet; Darcy Davis Jr.-trumpet; Ted Longstreet-trombone.

Mr. James Kallipolites, percussion teacher, also demonstrated the snare drum, and interested pupils were given "information sheets" as to private instructors and procedure for joining their school band classes.

Mrs. Lowell appreciates the assistance of elementary band "alumni" mothers who helped with the registrations during the demonstrations. They were Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Gramolini, and Mrs. Pignatare from Phelps; Mrs. Krzkowski, Mrs. Noll, and Mrs. Hamel from Clark; Mrs. Pinney and Mrs. Harpin from Danahy; Mrs. Hebert, Mrs. O'Neil and Mrs. Helton from Granger and Mrs. Aversa, Mrs. Crowley, Mrs. Donatini, and Mrs. Duffus from Robinson Park.

Important Meeting Scheduled On Max-Ed. Program

Parents of Agawam High School seniors who may be taking part in the Max-Ed. program this year are asked to attend a brief, but important exploratory meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 18, in the high school auditorium.

Senior Center Wright St., Agawam

9/17: Pork roast, creamed potatoes, carrots, apple crisp
9/18: Quiche Lorraine, bean salad, pudding
9/19: Beef stew, noodles, lettuce, cake
9/20: Fresh green pea soup w/weiners, Portugese rolls, custard
9/21: Tunaload, red beet salad, cookies

We are planning to start our exercise class again on Monday mornings. We have a new teacher, Mrs. Viola Smith, who has a lot of experience doing exercises with Seniors. Please sign up as soon as possible so we will know whether we have a full class. Classes will start October 1st.

We also hope to start the square dancing group again on the same day. Here, too, we will only contract with the caller if we have a big enough group. We have to know soon, otherwise it will be impossible to get a caller. Please contact either Dorothy or Margarete.

October 18th we have a trip to Restland Farms. A sumptuous lunch and an afternoon of excellent entertainment can be yours for only \$11.50 which naturally includes transportation.

Bay Path Courses

How To Start Your Own Business, is six-session conference for both men and women, will be held at Bay Path Junior College on Monday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. beginning September 24. Co-sponsored by the U.S. Small Business Administration, the conference will provide expert professional advice on how to start a business of one's own, and persons may participate in as many sessions as they wish.

Speaker for the first session on the 24th, Planning for a New Business, will be Mr. Frank W. Green, industrial consultant with Frank Green Company, East Longmeadow. The second session, Financing your Business, will be held on October 15 with Mr. Paul Kenyon, assistant vice president for Shamut First Bank and Trust Company. Session three, Legal Considerations of a Small Business, on October 22, will be led by Atty. Clayton Fuller of laCroix, Fuller and Brogan, Springfield.

The fourth session, How to Promote a New Small Business, on October 29, will feature Miss, S. Alberta Stutman, retired director of advertising for Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company. Session five, The Importance of Good Financial Recording Keeping and Financial Statements, will be held on November 5 with Mrs. Joan Lacombe, associate professor of Business at Bay Path. The sixth and final session, on November 19, will be in the form of a panel discussion with moderator, Mrs. Melbe Corliss, vice president and treasurer of Corliss Management, Inc., Longmeadow. The panel will include: Mrs. Blanche Gamel, realtor with Stearns and Yerrall; Mrs. Mary Allen, clerk of corporation for Liberty Ice and Fuel; Mr. Louis Del Pardo, owner of Del Padre Entertainment Center; and Mr. Sol Freeman of SCORE.

A detailed brochure with registration form is available from the college. Inquiries about the conference may be made to Bay Path's academic dean, Ms. Mary Louise Van Winkle. Registration may be made by mail, or in person weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. in Deepwood Hall Enrollment will be limited to the first 30 applicants in each session.

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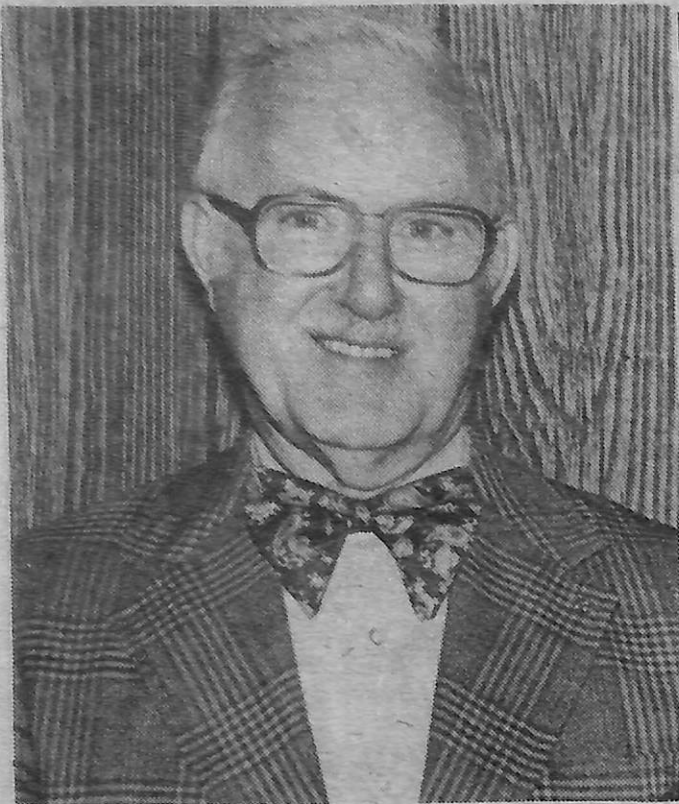
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10 AM - 8 PM**

**786-0364
Sat. 10 AM - 4 PM**

**Tues. & Fri.
10 AM - 6 PM**





Raymond McCarroll

Ray McCarroll To Retire

Kenneth G. Abrahams, President of Food Marts today announced the retirement of Raymond H. McCarroll, longtime store manager of the Agawam Food Mart, at the end of September.

Abrahams said that McCarroll had a long and brilliant career with Food Mart and that "while I'm sorry to see him leave active service with the company and I'm sure his customers will miss him, I know that he looks forward to the relaxation he so richly deserves."

Abrahams also said that Food Marts is planning a Testimonial Retirement Party for McCarroll to be held on Monday evening, September 24, 1979 at the Chez Josef in Agawam.

Knights of Columbus Plan Fall Program

Grand Knight Henry Lecour, and members of John F. Kennedy Council, Knights of Columbus, Agawam, announce a planned advance program for its Fall season, 1979.

A tag sale for renovation to its building on South Street, will be held Saturday, September 29 and Sunday September 30, in the parking lot of the Agawam Food Mart. There will be many items to select from. The sale will be from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. anyone wishing to donate articles for the sale, may bring them Sept. 29 or 30 to the Food Mart. In the event of inclement weather, the sale will be held on October 13 and 14.

The annual Tootsie Roll Drive for the benefit of physically handicapped children, a national program of the Knights of Columbus will be held in many Agawam locations, Friday and Saturday, October 5 and 6. Locations for the drive will be in Agawam Center, Southgate Shopping Center and Feeding Hills.



Vote!! Vote!! Vote!!
DOM CANDIDO
COUNCILOR AT LARGE
Voted For In All Precincts
Primary Day, October 2'nd
Paid For By: Joanne Candido, 40 Ley St., Agawam

Agawam Lions Plan Membership Drive

The Agawam Lioness Club, sponsored by the Agawam Lion s Club is conducting a membership drive. Anyone who joins the club now will be a charter member under the new Agawam International Lioness Club by-laws.

If you have not been contacted by Sept. 17th and wish to become a member of the Lioness Club, please call one of the membership committee as follows: Frances Pedulla 786-0842, Lucille Blackak 786-6935, Esther Straszko 786-6846, or Mary McMahon 786-8206.

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Ex-Agawam Woman To Practice Medicine

Catherine Shaer Sank, presently of Wheaton, Maryland, has recently finished her residency at Children's Hospital, National Medical Center, Washington, D.C. and plans to practice pediatrics in the Washington area.

Dr. Sank, daughter of Mrs. Domit Shaer and the late Domit Shaer of Cooper Street, Agawam, graduated from Agawam High School in 1970. She attended Quinnipiac College on a four-year scholarship and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in biology with highest honors. While attending Quinnipiac, she received the President's Award and the Freshman Faculty Award.

She went on to medical school at the University of Texas, Health Science Center of San Antonio.

Dr. Sank is a member of the American Medical Association, Alpha Omega Alpha, Medical School Honor Society (National), Beta Beta Beta, Alpha Mu Gamma-Phi Theta Kappa.

Dr. Sank lives in Wheaton, Maryland, with her husband Dr. Victor Sank.



Catherine Shaer Shank

Catholic Women Will Meet

The Agawam Catholic Women's Club will begin its 41st year on Monday, September 17th, at 8:00 p.m. in St. John's Social Center at 823 Main Street, Agawam.

Mrs. Philip DeForge, president, will open the meeting. She will be assisted by the following officers: First vice president Mrs. Albert Taupier; Second vice president Mrs. James Doyle; Secretary Mrs. Stephen Jacaprarro; Treasurer Mrs. Stanley Ciempa. The directors are Mrs. Thomas McGovern, Mrs. Richard Conway and Mrs. James Consolini.

Guest speaker will be Dr. Cheryl Pellitier, PhD who will speak on the psychology of women - where are we and how did we get there. Mrs. James Doyle will introduce the speaker. Dr. Pellitier has an office in Springfield and is a teacher and supervisor of psychotherapy. Her present and past teaching appointments include Tufts University School of Medicine, Bay State Medical Center, Westfield State College, and Springfield College.

Mrs. Arthur Fortier is in charge of hospitality this month.

Membership is open to any Catholic women in Agawam. Anyone who is interested is asked to contact Mrs. James Doyle at 786-9586.

Our Arts and Crafts Fair will be on Saturday, October 13 from 10 to 4. Admission is free. Any interested arts and crafts dealer may contact Mrs. Claude Ouellette at 789-0977.

Vote!! Vote!! Vote!!
DOM CANDIDO
COUNCILOR AT LARGE
Voted For In All Precincts
Primary Day, October 2nd

Paid For By: Joanne Candido, 40 Ley St., Agawam

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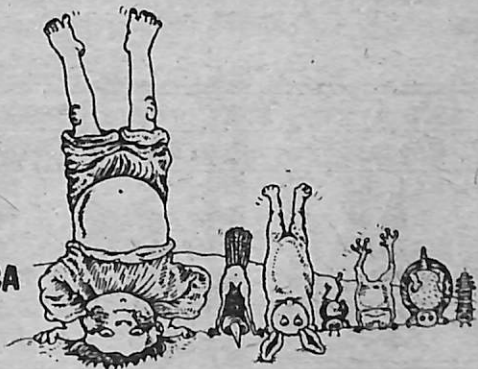
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For More Information Call The Springfield YMCA YOUTH OFFICE

739-6951 ext. 254

Kathleen Keefe Vet School Grad

Kathleen Keefe, daughter of Mrs. Donald Keefe of Colemore Street, Feeding Hills, and the late Donald Keefe, recently received her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan.

Dr. Keefe, who is married to Lloyd Ternes and resides in Lansing, Michigan, graduated from Agawam High School in 1970. She did undergraduate work at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, in their College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. She received a B.S. in Animal Sciences in 1974.

Dr. Keefe went on to further study at Michigan State College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and received a B.S. in Dairy Sciences in 1976. Her D.V.M. degree was earned with highest honors.

Dr. Keefe is member of the American Veterinary Medicine Association, the Michigan Veterinary Medicine Association, and Zeta Chapter of Phi Zeta. She is now associated with the Decker Dog and Cat Hospital in Lansing, Michigan.

Agawam Juniors Schedule First Meeting

On Tuesday, September 18, at 8:00 p.m., the first monthly meeting of the Agawam Junior Women's Club will be held at the Captain Charles Leonard House on Main Street in Agawam.

Those Juniors, members of the Massachusetts State Federation of Women's Clubs and the General Federation of Women's Clubs, will begin their 22nd club year with a brief business meeting conducted by Mrs. Barbara O'Connor, president for 1979-80.

Ms. Holly Lefebvre of "The Stonemill" in West Springfield will be September's guest speaker. Her presentation will focus on the benefits of natural foods regarding cost and nutritional value in comparison to grocery store items whose labels do not always accurately state ingredients and manufacturing processes. Ms. Lefebvre will also bring samples of whole grain (no sugar added) breads, cakes, granola, etc. recipes and information on the full line of natural foods and supplements.

All meetings, held on the third Tuesday of each month, are open to the public throughout the year and guests are always welcome. Come and see the Juniors in action planning projects and activities. Consider joining "Those Juniors."

Any former members wishing to receive the monthly *Junior Jots* newsletter may do so by forwarding \$3.00 for postage and handling to Ms. Cindy Merriman, P.O. Box 323, Agawam 01001. Keep in touch with the Juniors!

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Agawam Jaycees Announce Lecture Series

The Agawam Jaycees has announced its first annual fall lecture series, which will be held at the Community Room of the Agawam Public Library. The schedule for the series is as follows:

September 17, 7:30p.m. Richard Borgatti and the Agawam School Committee, "Growth in the 80's, the future of Agawam's Schools."

October 9, 7:30p.m. Jack Gordon, authority on the Kennedy assassination, will speak on the theories surrounding the death of the President.

October 25, 7:30 A symposium will be held with experts, from outside of Agawam, explaining the strengths and weaknesses of the mayor/council and manager/council forms of government.

November 15, 7:30p.m. Richard Theroux, President of the Agawam Town Council, Peter Caputo, Town Manager, and others will discuss "Agawam in the 80's".

November 29, 7:30p.m. Michael Meeropol, son of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, will speak on the Rosenberg case.

The Jaycees hope that the Agawam community will respond to these lectures and attend in great numbers. Admission will be free and each session will be followed by questions.

Big E Cattle Competition Planned

John Walker III and John Walker IV, Sunnyfield Farm, Agawam, Ma. have entered cattle in competition at the 1979 Eastern States Exposition Dairy Show scheduled at the Big E, West Springfield, Ma.

The Walkers' Jerseys will be judged with other entries of the same breed at the Eastern National Jersey Show on Monday, Sept. 17 at 8 a.m. in Mallory Arena.

Other breeds entered in competition will be judged according to the following schedule: Ayrshire Show, Monday, Sept. 17 at 8 a.m.; Brown Swiss Show, Friday, Sept. 21 at 9 a.m.; Guernsey Show, Friday, Sept. 14 at 9 a.m.; Holstein Classic Show, Wednesday, Sept. 12 at 8:30 a.m.; Milking Shorthorn Show, Friday Sept. 21 at 9 a.m. All events will be held in Mallory Arena.

The Eastern States Exposition Dairy Show will also include costume classes, premier breeder and exhibitor awards, and a Queen of the Milky Weigh Contest in which the cow that produces the most milk during the 36 hour period of the show is the winner.

Besides livestock and agricultural competitions, the Big E will also feature a colorful daily parade, many free shows for the whole family, crafts, food, midway rides, many exciting exhibits and much, much more.

Retreat League Plan Spaghetti Supper

The Men's Retreat League of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, Springfield, will hold its annual ziti and sausage supper, Wednesday, September 19, in the church auditorium, 36 Margaret Street.

The benefit supper, including dessert and beverage, will be served from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Tickets are now on sale to the general public through members of the Men's Retreat League, and may also be obtained at the Mt. Carmel Church Rectory on William Street.

The tickets are \$2.50 each for adults and \$1.50 each for children under twelve. Proceeds from this annual event are for the benefit of the Holy Name youngsters as well as other charitable deeds sponsored by the Men's Retreat League.

ECKANKAR A Way Of Life Film & Talk at the Agawam Library

Sept. 20'th 7 - 8 PM

"ECKANKAR is a way of life for the individual and provides its members the methods of gaining the great spiritual experiences in this lifetime without controlling that individual." (profile of ECKANKAR)

Library Slates Young Adult Night

The Agawam Public Library is having a Young Adult Night for youths ages thirteen and up on Tuesday evening, September 18 at 7 p.m.

The night will begin with the showing of two films: Braverman's "Condensed Cream of Beatles" and "Occurance At Owl Creek Bridge." An informal discussion of programs and activities that you would like to see the library offer will follow.

Your suggestions will help us to meet some of your needs and interests, so PLEASE COME and bring your friends!

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COUNCILOR AT LARGE
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Paid For By: Joanne Candido, 40 Ley St., Agawam

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Food Co-Op Open To Agawam Residents

The Agawam Food Co-op will be open to the public for a total of 16 hours, three days a week, beginning Thursday, Sept. 6.

The Co-op, located on Springfield St., Agawam, in the Hollow Pine Shopping Center, will be open Thursdays from 4 to 8 p.m. and Fridays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Fresh produce, eggs, poultry, cheeses and an extensive line of organically grown flours, grains, oils, nuts and cereals, as well as other dry goods are available to the public at low prices. Co-op members receive a further discount for their labor, and new members are invited to join.

Agawam Garden Club Flower Show

The Agawam Garden Club held its annual flower show this past Tuesday evening at the Captain Charles Leonard House. Some forth eight entries were judged by the general public that attended. There were eight categories. Winners in the Children's category No.1 were: first, Scott Anderson; second, Kelly Fedora; third, Maria Kubik. In category No.2 for the kids, honors went to Kelly Fedora, first place, and Peter Santinello for second place.

In the adult category No.1, first place was won by Judy Anderson; second place, Dorothy Brown; and third, Janet Cook. In category No.2, Alice Moore and Janet Cook tied for first place. Second went to Mary Fedora; Fran Waga and Judy Clini tied for third place honors. Category No.3 saw Janet Cook winning first place, Dorothy Brown winning second and third went to Barbara Santinello. Winners of category No.4 were Janet Cook, first; Silvia Deliso, second; Barbara Santinello and Tom Deliso tied for third. Category No.5, honors were awarded to Florence Ceccarini for first; Dorothy Brown for second, and Alice Moore for third. The winners in category No.6 were Judy Anderson, first; Judy Clini, second, and Janet Cook, third.

The entries were very artistic and everyone worked extremely hard. A special thanks goes to Mary Fedora, Mary Melon and Janet Cook for organizing the event. Refreshments served were the tasty efforts of Jerry Norgard's baking committee. They were delicious. See you all next year!



Pictured left to right, with their prize winning Exhibits are Janet Cook and Mary Fedora. Photo by Jack Devine

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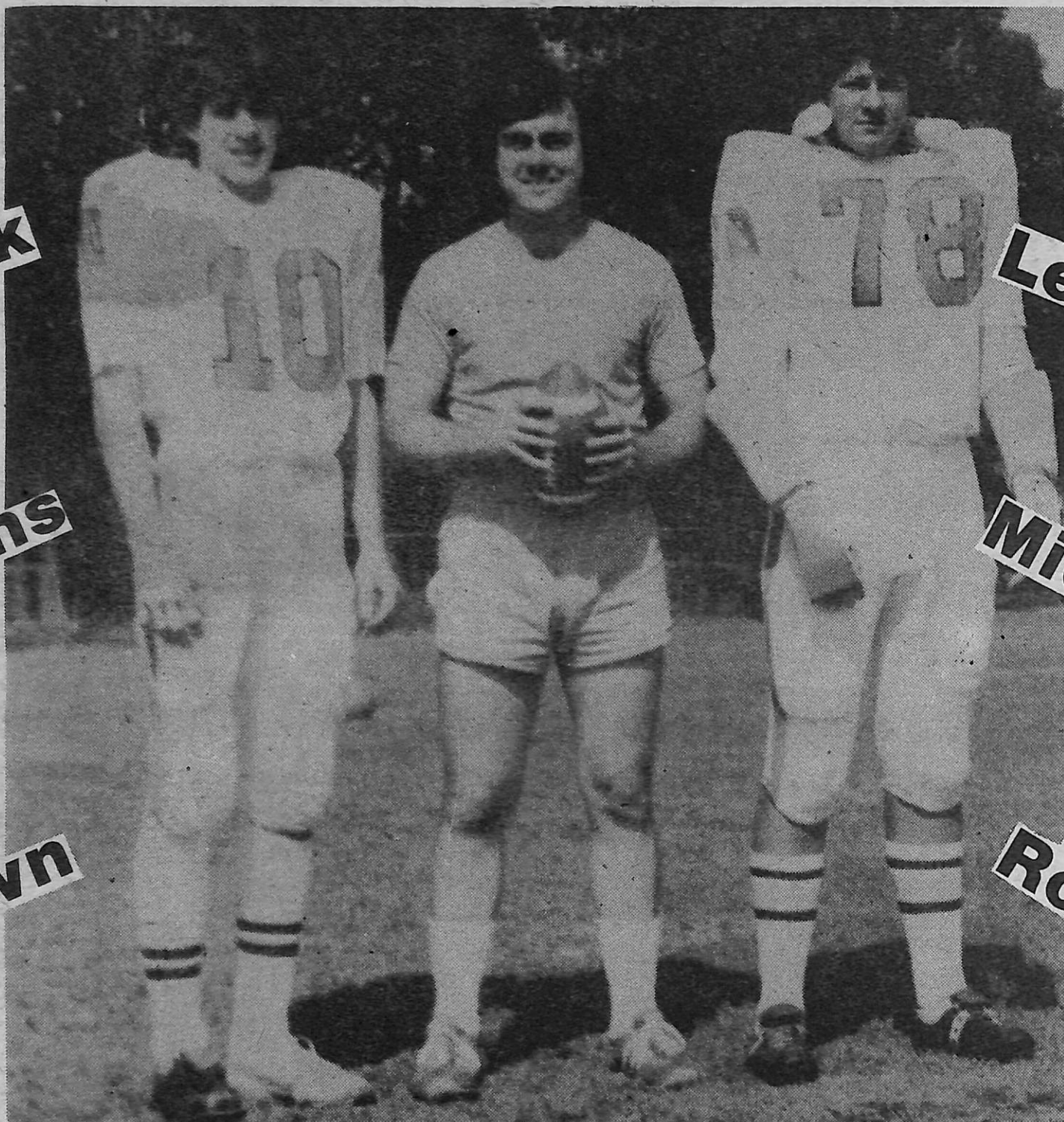
AGAWAM FOOTBALL 1979



**The
Back**

**The
Brains**

**The
Brawn**



**Rick
LeClerc**

**Jack
Michalak**

**Larry
Roberts**

THE BIG THREE: While Agawam overall team output will determine their 1979 success, these three individuals assume a vital role in that operation.

Town Bubbles With Optimism Is This Agawam's Year?

There is a certain feeling about Agawam High football going around town these days - it's been missing for a very long time, yet it's an old friend just the same.

This notion, vanquished for 13 seasons as Saturday afternoon celebrations became dashed and frustrated dreams, is the opportunity to annex an AA Conference title - an event that was once a ho-hum affair during many a passing autumn for the Orange and Brown.

Has Agawam's prized possession returned? Is the past now the present? Judging from conversations with coaches, players, and long-time gridiron fanatics, the Brownies have a genuine shot for the league flag, and that sentiment has a football crazed community bubbling with excited anticipation.

Remark second-year coach Jack Michalak about his team's chances, "We have a solid club, but we have to stay healthy. We have a tough schedule. We're capable of beating anyone on it, but by the same token, anyone can beat us."

A year ago, behind Michalak's new system, specifically, an offensive formation called the "veer," the Brownies claimed their finest campaign since 1966. The locals outgunned Chicopee and Holyoke, Cathedral and Chicopee Comp. A key game fell to undefeated Westfield for their lone AA Conference setback. The townies climaxed a 7-3-1 season by demolishing old rival West Springfield on Turkey Day. The thrashing brought back many memories.

But graduation's axe slashed Michalak's charges. Gone are Randy Young, Jay Barry, Roger Mason, Mario Mercadante, Steve Neison, and Mike B'Shara. An impressive cast.

Just front liners Ricky LeClerc, Abe Yacteen, Bill Blackak, Larry Roberts, Mike Longhi, and Dan Beaudette have returned to the ranks. Michalak has only one player, Roberts, in the over 220 club. There is inexperience, especially on the defense, and both lines are small. Holyoke, Chicopee, Westfield, and Cathedral are strong. The Brownies open with Minnechaug, whose numbers read a marvelous twenty-two victims in a row.

So Why all the excitement? Why claims of the league's best?

The reason for the hoopla and great anticipation rests in the thunderbolts on offense and the gut feeling that the defense will regroup and perform as one tough unit.

With LeClerc directing the veer, Agawam possesses a war wagon by land and by air - the Brownies have talented running backs galore and a wide receiver that sniffs pay dirt like a mad bloodhound.

"The veer offense is what I know best and we have the people to put points on the board," Michalak said of his option assault. "It's an exciting brand of football to coach and to watch, and it opens up the pass, the inside run, or the outside swap. We just love to play it."

The former Cathedral High mentor has a young and zealous defense, but it has people worried. Let it be said

here and now that the Brownies fortunes rest with that unit - it'll be Wall Street or debtors prison.

Fortunately, Agawam lists three independent encounters before swinging into league wars. Michalak is grateful for this as it should provide his kids with much needed game experience. Besides Minnechaug, who the Brownies meet Friday night at Springfield College, Berkshire foes Taconic and Drury cross Agawam's path before the conference opener against Bill Moge's Chicopee Pacers on October 6.

"I think the opener against Minnechaug will be determined by who makes the most mistakes," Michalak offered. "I know they have some good returning players. It'll be a good game."

Asked for a prediction, Agawam's chairman of the board flatly stated, "I certainly don't intend on being number 23."

The 60 warriors echo their coach's statement. They are a blend of a few outstanding veterans, many talented walk-on seniors, and group of eager young colts. Confidence sprinkles the Phelps School practice field.

Perhaps Al Bonavita, Brownies Booster Club president, put the season in proper perspective: "We have all the makings of a great jigsaw puzzle. We just have to make sure all the pieces fit and none are missing."

The Offense...

Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes



Frank Campeti



Dean Poggi

MORE DEPTH

ON

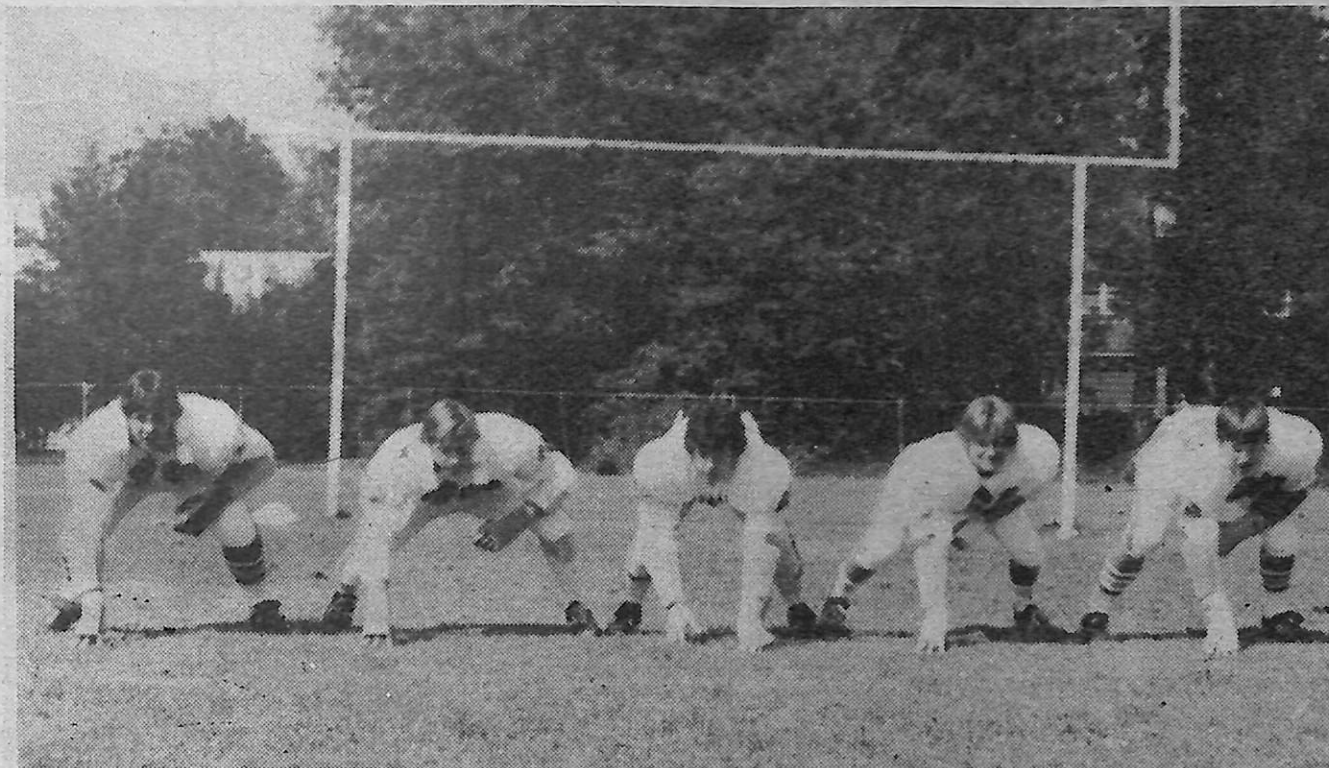
THE LINE



Chris Dore



Steve Wojcik



THE BOLD ONES: The battle of the trenches keys the Brownies veer attack. Clearing a path into daylight for the backs are linemen (left to right) Larry Roberts, Mike Longhi, Glenn Welsh, Bill Blackak, and Jimmy Fleming. *Advertiser/News* photo by GAL

A systematic transformation swept through the Brownie offensive unit a year ago. It came with a new coach. The sweeping change was a strange animal named the "veer attack." It demands ballhandling wizardry on the quarterback's part and precise timing among the QB, the running backs, and the offensive linemen. Because there is an abundance of faking amongst the entire backfield, the blockers must form quickly. If any one entity suffers a breakdown, the fumble becomes an ever-present threat.

Jack Michalak, Agawam's second year varsity coach, the initiator of the veer during his rookie campaign in 1978, told us that it was not until mid-season that his charges began operating the veer with efficiency and discipline.

The new formation offered local loyalists feverish excitement in the Brownies first regular season clash against Chicopee Comp. Many of us readily recall that opening contest under stars at Szot Park. The townies totally dismantled the Colt defense with their new weapon. The final tally read 33-24 Agawam. It offered gridiron buffs new hope after 12 years of agony and disappointment.

Yet there were times soonafter, when the veer stalled and needed a trip to the repair shop. When it worked, it exploded. When it fizzled and sputtered, the coaches each grew another premature gray strand.

All that has changed thus far through the 1979 pre-season drills. Commented Michalak about his offense's excursions and understanding of the concept going into the seasonal opener against Minnechaug Friday, "We're a million miles ahead of where we were last year at this time. I hope we can pick up just where we left off last year."

If that is the case, the Falcons and AA Conference foes are in trouble. The locals demolished arch-rival West Springfield on Thanksgiving Day, culminating a season where improvement and added confidence became a common denominator for Agawam.

Michalak's enthusiasm when discussing the offense is easily detected. He knows he has the horses to wind the scoreboard silly.

Michalak's chief architect and subsequent builder of the veer's operation lies with senior signal-caller Ricky LeClerc. In LeClerc, the Brownies boast perhaps, the AA's best.

LeClerc took to the control panel midway through last season when starter Randy Young, now graduated, suffered a mishap. Until that point LeClerc had seen full time duty with the secondary unit, and had performed in outstanding fashion.

At quarter-back, LeClerc, at 6 foot 2, has all the tools to guide a successful veer. He's got a cool head and is smart, and can throw, a weapon that makes the offense more potent. LeClerc will be widely scouted this season by many a college, prompting Michalak to observe,

"Ricky is a good one but before college you have to play well in high school and this is Rick's chance to do just that."

Complementing LeClerc's talents are a cast of running backs that Michalak feels admirably fill the role of what a veer back symbolizes: speed, strength and blocking power.

Halfbacks David Stuart and Dan Beaudette and fullbacks Joe Pezzamanti and Kurt Toomey are the slingshots that should tear huge chunks of real estate into the enemy's turf.

Beaudette began last season as a starter. He is a gifted runner with great breakaway acceleration. Stuart, a junior mighty mite, is cat-like quick with the moves that can drive a defense crazy. Pezzamanti has brute power for the tough yardage and is a key blocker for the speedier counterparts. Toomey, a strong runner still

learning the trade, is expected to receive his chance, according to Michalak's game design.

"Beaudette and Pezz will start but all the backs will play just about equal time unless one gets very hot," he related.

Escorting the backfield is an offensive line that is relatively small but one that Michalak feels will explode off the ball.

Injuries have sidelined seniors Steve Wojcik and Chris Dore, two elements on the line. Michalak voices concern but the remaining components of the trenches are a talented lot.

Mammoth senior Larry Roberts heads the heavy infantry. He's a good one and should lead many an assault into the opposing wall. Mike Longhi, a veteran lineman and Bill Blackak, a senior linebacker called into offensive chores, are 6 foot 180 and 5 foot 10, 170 respectively. Not shaped out of Roberts mold but effective none the less. Center Glen Welsh and newcomers Jim Fleming and Dean Poggi, both juniors complete the backfield's convoy.

LeClerc's prime target for his aerial strikes is senior Abe Yacteen, a 6 foot 3 split end that generates enough excitement with the pigskin to ignite a nuclear reactor--well, almost.

Yacteen is a returnee; he's a long ball threat and can break a quick flair pattern for a big gainer. He's tough to bring down and possesses fine leaping ability.

First year Brian Sweeney, of local baseball fame, merits the starting nod at tight end. An all around athlete, Sweeney provides LeClerc with a second air-born target--adding more pressure to defensive backs with plenty to worry about already. Newcomers Dave Smith and Paul Knight provide the Brownies with added strength at the tight end slot.

"We have a very solid offense with some fine people to put points on the board for us. But we must remain healthy. We cannot afford injuries," Michalak contends.

Michalak's words ring true. The attack is explosive, and could be the conference's best. But an injury to LeClerc, Roberts or Yacteen changes the picture drastically, especially if the axe falls on LeClerc.

Despite their lack of tall timber on the line, there is depth and talent there--Roberts remains the key. With a healthy Wojcik and Dore in the lineup, the juggernaut shifts into high gear.



OFFENSIVE THUNDERBOLTS: Agawam's explosive running attack is the squad's most potent weapon in 1979. Hoping to wind the scoreboard silly are running backs (kneeling left to right) Kevin Barnes, David Stuart, Joe Pezzamanti and Kurt Toomey. Standing are quarterbacks Ricky LeClerc (10) and John Darnell (11). *Advertiser/News* photo by GAL

Brownie Defense: Where It's All Decided



QUARTERBACK BUSTERS: Glenn Geddis and mammoth Larry Roberts help solidify the Brownie defensive line. *Advertiser/News* photo by GAL

The once noisy lockerroom is quiet. It's swiftly approaching sunset and Jack Michalak has sent the kids home after another hard afternoon on their Phelps Field training site.

A few of his staff are still hanging around. Okay coach, we know you can put points on the board—in bundles. But can your defenders rise to the occasion? Is your defense the weak link?

"The defense could be a weakness," he slowly began. "We lack the experience and size in the line and our secondary is untested in spots, but our linebackers are fairly sound. Other than that, we're in good shape," he added, smiling wryly.

In all fairness to Michalak's structure of defense, there is plenty of talent and guts present. The attitude is excellent, and there is speed. Yet question marks continue to pester the sideline directors.

The down linemen have two vital performers injured. Steve Wojcik, who is a hitter and a team leader, sits with a broken wrist and could be out till mid-season, according to the second year mentor.

Chris Dore represents the second key reason for the local concern. He has a severely sprained ankle and is a question mark for the Minnechaug clash. Dore is rock solid and is badly needed to plug leaks in the dike.

"I'd feel a lot better if I had those two in the lineup," Michalak said of his walking wounded.

Of course, the front wall, the stone wall, of the down linemen is 6 foot 4, 235 pound Larry Roberts. Roberts has that look that points to one mean dude. He is one of Michalak's veteran returnees and with Roberts, the overall success against enemy running backs could be measured, providing, of course, the opposition's double team doesn't beat him with a club.

Will the enemy run at Roberts? "If they were smart, they wouldn't," offered assistant coach Joe Lavoie.

Quickly rising into prominence on the line is senior Vinny Kortabani and junior Dean Poggi, both of whom Michalak will be relying on for production plus. Both are relatively smallish and must utilize their agility and charge off the hike to prove effective.

In the linebacking crew, senior Joe Pezzamenti and returning starter Bill Blackak, also a senior, form the wrecking force behind the line. It's up to these veterans to contain charging ball carriers from heading into the luxurious confines of the open field, which represents a nightmare to defensive backs.

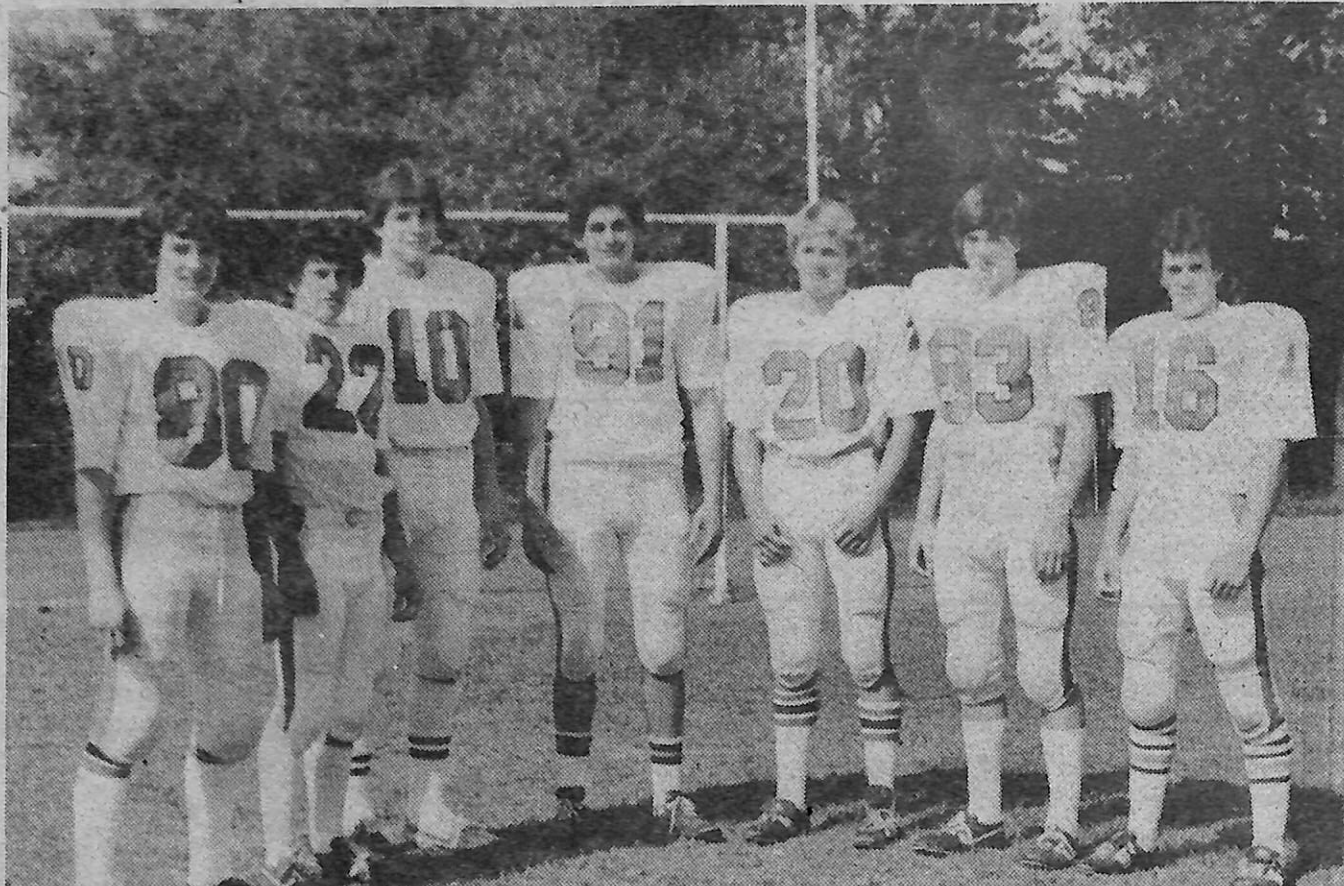
Michalak is banking on support from a pair of eager and unproven sophomores in Todd Clark and Jimmy Egan to bolster the efforts of Blackak and Pezzamenti.

If Michalak could place last season's secondary of Ricky LeClerc, Dan Beaudette and Abe Yacteen behind his linebacking corps, he would sleep much better at night. Unfortunately, the trio forms the nucleus of the offensive thrust. Double duty is not conducive to a smooth functioning veer, and Michalak knows well that he cannot afford to lose LeClerc or Yacteen to the intensive care unit.

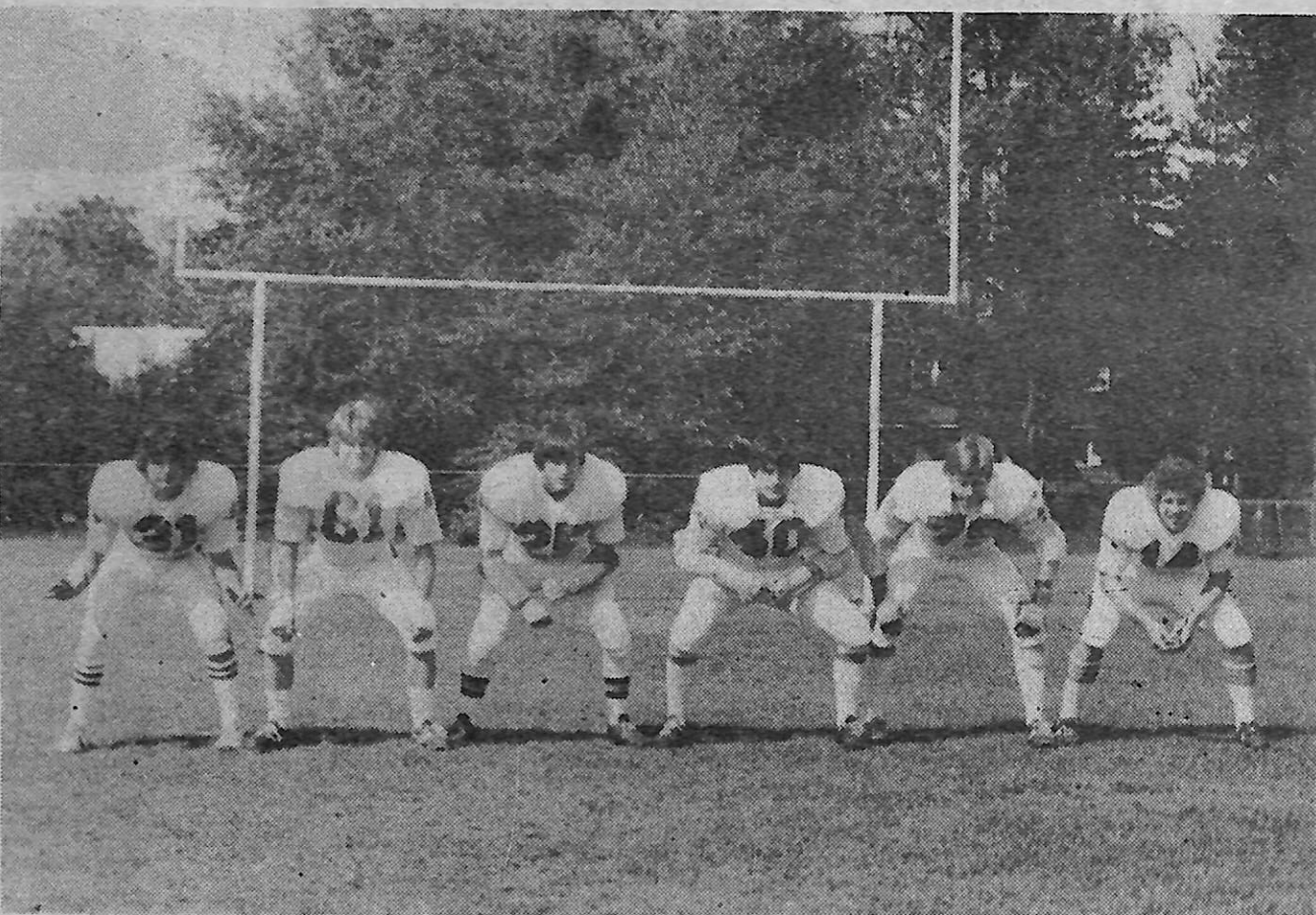
Beaudette assuredly will see full time activity in the defensive backfield and Yacteen, according to Michalak, will get his licks in too. LeClerc is another matter.

"Actually, Ricky is our best secondary man, but he's our offense. The only time he'll play defense is if he's the fifth defensive back or in an emergency. That's it," the top helmets declared.

So he dips into his ranks. Junior David Stuart, one of those talented running backs, comes into the picture in free safety form. First year senior Paul Knight likewise, fits into the scenario. Scott Negrucci and Paul Dezielle, a pair of youngsters may also entertain playing time.



LAST LINE OF DEFENSE: The secondary. Scott Negrucci (80), David Stuart (22), Ricky LeClerc (10), Abe Yacteen (91), Paul Knight (20), Paul Zerbinopoulos (83), Paul Dezielle (16). *Advertiser/News* photo by GAL



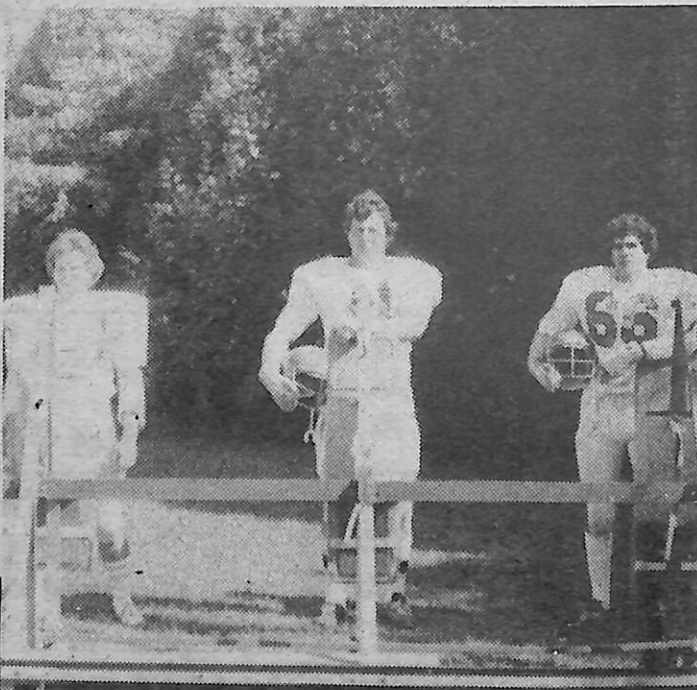
LINEBACKING CREW: Jimmy Egan (31), Bill Blackak (61), Todd Clark (25), Joe Pezzamenti (40), Mike Longhi (79) and Kevin Barnes (14). *Advertiser/News* photo by GAL

"We have a lot of talent back there," Michalak said in reference to his last line of defense. "Some of the kids just need some playing time and game experience, and then they'll jell."

That could be the critical word—jell. A year ago, the Brownies possessed the good fortunes of a solid and veteran defense. While the offense was Michalak's tricky system, they remained the stalwarts, a group that bent, but never quite broke.

Not so in 1979. The Brownie defense, unaccustomed to each other and lacking valuable trench experience, remain the key in upcoming triumphs or failures.

It's a challenge—it's a test...but in more cases than not, it distinguishes the top dog from the rest of the pack.



TOUGH LINEMEN: Hoping to stabilize the Brownie defensive line are (Left to right) Vinny Kortabani, Chris Dore and Dean Poggi. *Advertiser/News* photo by GAL

Many thanks to Ric Sardella and Gail Loncto for their efforts on behalf of this special section. Thanks also to my entire staff for a job well done.

Pat Guevin

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1979 BROWNI

Friday, Sept. 14-Agawam vs Minnechaug at Springfield College - 8 P.M.

Saturday, Sept. 22-Agawam at Taconic

Saturday, Sept. 29-Agawam at Drury

Saturday, Oct. 6-Agawam at Chicopee

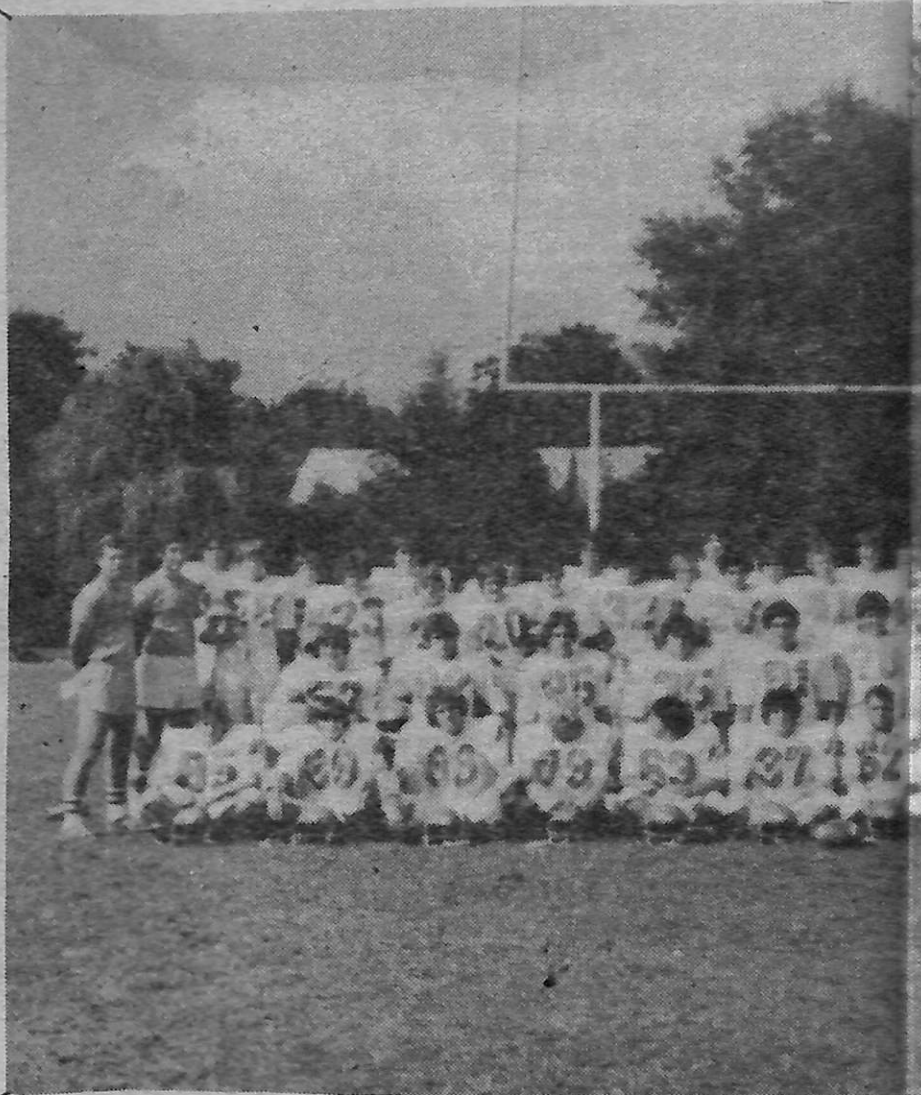
Saturday, Oct. 13-Holyoke at Agawam

Saturday, Oct. 20-Agawam at Westfield



Bill Black

THE 1979 AGAWAM



THE 1979 BROW

SENIORS

Rick LeClerc
Joe Pezzimenti
Kurt Toomey
Dan Beaudette
Paul Knight
Mike Fleming
Todd Clark
Glenn Welch
Mike Longhi
Larry Roberts
Bill Blackak
Frank Campiti
Steve Wojcik
Chris Dore
Bob Rose
Brian Sweeney
Vin Kortabani
Paul Zerbinopoulos
Abe Yacteen
Grant Ward



Brian Sweeney

JUNIORS

Keith Perry
Dino Tangri
Mark Morin
Jon Gendron
Dan O'Brien
David Stuart
David Goss
Jim Fleming
Dean Pogg
Richard Ne
Dean Molit
David Smith
Doug Guth
Bob Santan
Don Jacobs
Glen Geddi
Al Mahone

EAM !!

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NIE SCHEDULE

Saturday, Oct. 27-Chicopee Comp at Agawam
 Saturday, Nov. 3-Cathedral at Agawam
 Saturday, Nov. 10-Agawam at Milford
 Thursday, Nov. 22-Thanksgiving Day-West Springfield at Agawam - 10:30 A.M.
 ALL SATURDAY AFTERNOON GAMES BEGIN AT 1:30 P.M.



Blackak

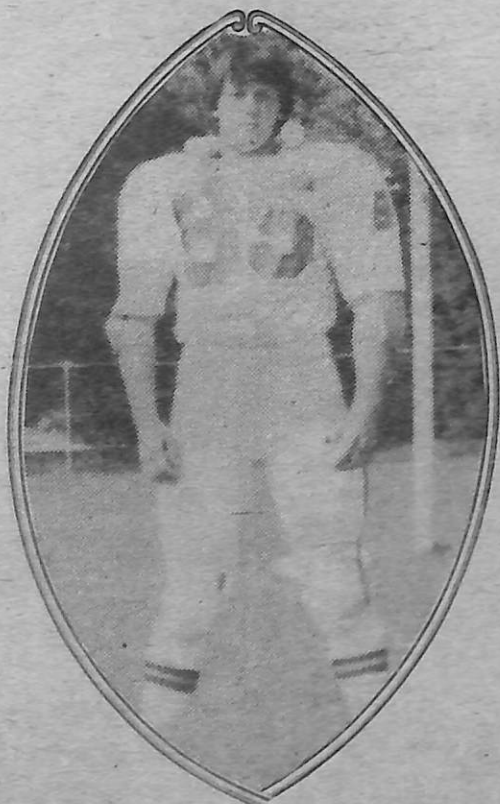
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Things Look Good... Kibbe

Cliff Kibbe has been around the Agawam High gridiron for many a year. He has seen it all, from a player's view, a coach's view and presently from the athletic director's chair.

Kibbe has witnessed the glory years and the years when wins came as tough as a fourth down and long. He coached football for 17 years, six as a head helmsman for the orange and brown-clad Brownies. He retired from the active ranks in 1974 to focus his efforts fully on directing the school system's athletic affairs.

For the school's 1979 fall session, the AD predicted good things for Jack Michalak's crew. He said the squad's pre-season preparations over the summer went smoothly. The schedule is intact, the equipment ready for combat duty, Kibbe disclosed.

"From an administrative standpoint, all is going well so far," Kibbe related. "There are a few things we're still concerned about but with the cooperation, we'll work them out."

The few remaining bugs, according to the AD, are because of the massive landscaping project on school grounds.

For those of you who have bypassed Mill Street in recent months, then a big surprise awaits you. The 4 million high school renovation project has turned the acreage into a temporary wasteland lined with hulking tractors and steam shovels.

Kibbe decreed that all Brownie loyalists should enter the friendly confines of Harmon Smith Field through the Line Street entrance, a portion of the facility that hasn't been utilized for years. Only the band and the team itself will be allowed to pass through the customary entrance behind the former girls softball diamond.

Traffic congestion and mobs of fans swarming the gates could pose a problem, says Kibbe, but he added, "There are just four home games this season so we're asking everyone to please be patient when arriving at the games to allow a steady flow into the stands."

Kibbe said the school's parking lot will again be available for parking. He stated, "People will have to do a little walking this year but it's a good healthy walk. For a little sacrifice this fall the community will reap the benefits of new facilities next year."

Kibbe, who celebrates his twenty-fifth year of service in the school system next September, speaks proudly of his relationship with Michalak and Bill Sapelli, the Brownies popular assistant coach. Both sideline directors played under Kibbe's watchful eye during their inter-scholastic days at the high school.

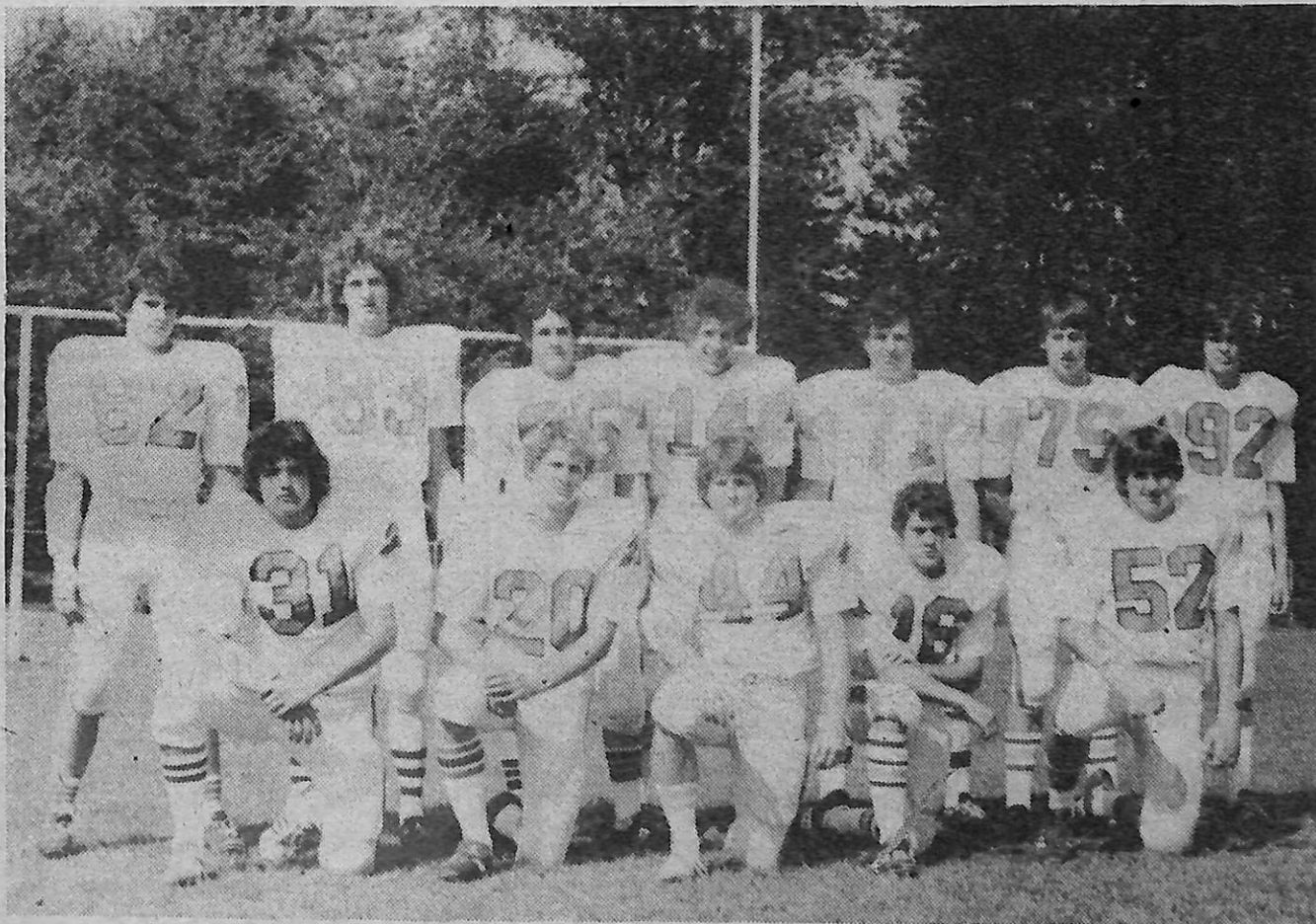
"I remember Jack and Billy very well and can safely say that the kids are in good hands," he nodded approvingly.

While the school's resident football patriarch failed to issue a prediction on Agawam's chances for AA gold, he did indicate that the local favorites would once again provide the league's establishment another run for their money.

"The kids' attitude is good and there is a lot of quickness on the team. I think it will be another good season for us all to be proud of."



THE GENERAL AND HIS STAFF: Taking a moment's rest from barking the orders are Brownie coaches (left to right) Joe Lavoie, Head Coach Jack Michalak, Paul Backini, and Bill Sapelli. *Advertiser/News* photo by GAL



PROMISING NEW FACES: Depth is a key factor in the Brownies attempt to dethrone Westfield. Promising newcomers strengthening the ranks include (first row) Jimmy Egan (31), Paul Knight (20), Vinny Kortaboni (44), Paul Dezeille (16), and Dean Molta (52). (back row) Brian Sweeny (82), Grant Ward (83), Frank Campiti (45), Kevin Barnes (14), Chris Dore (71), Jimmy Fleming (75), and Glenn Geddis (92). *Advertiser/News* photo by GAL.



MAN BEHIND THE SCENES: Athletic Director Cliff Kibbe. *Advertiser/News* photo by GAL

FOOTBALL SEASON OPENS

Brownies Sport Australian Look



He's Australian, hails from a community called Come-by-Chance, tosses a boomerang, tracks Kangaroo's, works on a sheep farm, and is a experienced rugby player.

Then why-by-chance is he at Phelps Field, approximately 9,000 miles from home, and trying ever so hard to learn the ropes of American football, high school style?

Why? Grant Ward, Agawam High's resident Australian, outlined his new experience on the gridiron very simply, "It's different, more fun than rugby and there's more contact, and it is something I haven't tried before."

To set the record straight, Grant, unlike his hometown (population 14) is not a come-by-chance. He's a cog in the school department's ever so popular, ever growing American Field Service program--the program that offers foreign students an opportunity for a year's study at the local senior high, and in turn allows qualified AHS students the golden opportunity to study abroad.

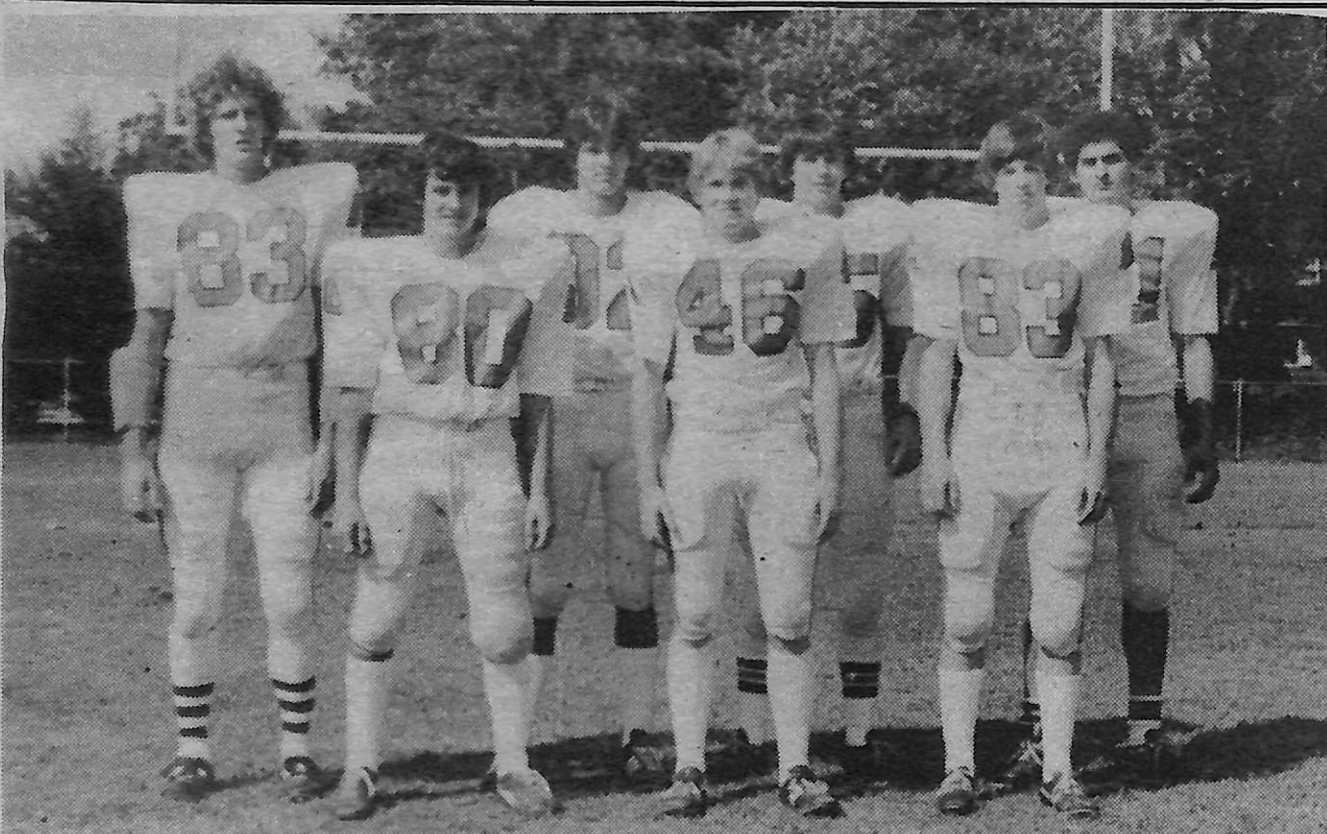
Grant is one of two foreign students who have graced the community this year, the second being Marcela Arana, a charming pupil from Bolivia.

Varsity coach Jack Michalak labeled Grant "a good natural athlete" after observing the slender 6 foot 2 Australian in the varsity's first two weeks of practice.

Although still perplexed and mesmerized by the intricacies of the gridiron, Grant said he is learning the game, slowly but surely. "I was totally confused the first couple of days of practice but as the week wore on I gradually picked it up," Grant commented in that ear-pleasing accent.

Grant remarked that rugby, a game he began playing at age nine, centers more on individual training instead of drills where the entire squad participates. He said he

WELCOME TO AGAWAM, OLD BOY: Greeting American Field Service student Grant Ward into the tough life of high school football is Assistant Coach Paul Backini. Grant will be spending a year with Mr. and Mrs. Joe Curran. *Advertiser/News photo by GAL*



THE RECEIVING CORPS: In Abe Yacteen, the Brownies possess one of the premier split ends in Western Mass. But there is also plenty of depth at the position. (left to right) Grant Ward (83), Scott Negrucci (80), Glenn Geddis (82), Doug Guthrie (46), Todd Clark (25), Paul Zerbinopoulos (83) and Yacteen. *Advertiser/News photo by GAL*

remains rather amused at the high pitched team spirit involved in football practice, and said, "American football is just one complex strategy after another."

"In rugby," he continued, "you really don't get psyched up until the day of the game. Over here, it's an ongoing thing. Emotions are very important."

What was it like put on head gear and the rest of the equipment for the first time? Did you feel like you were preparing for an old fashioned joust?

"It was an experience at first," he responded. "I really felt strange but I found that you really need the equipment because everyone is crashing into each other and bodies are all over the place."

Grant learned during the Brownies first scrimmage with East Longmeadow what it was like picking himself off the turf after taking a good shot or two.

"Oh, I got knocked on my butt a few times," the wide-receiver, defensive end confirmed. But he further related, "I've been hit harder than that before when playing rugby. Perhaps when Grant sees regular season action he will be greeted to the United States with a bit more authority."

"If that's the case," he quickly smiled, "then I'll just have to make sure I get my knocks-in too," the towns newest citizen added.

Michalak disclosed to us that Grant will see heavy duty activity with the junior varsity to gain badly needed experience. "We'll see how he comes along and then get him into varsity competition as the situation dictates, the second year mentor explained."

Grant represents a continuation of the fine crop of AFS athletes in the orange and brown stables over the past two years. Brazilian Paulo Calcagnotto and Costa Rican Wadi Vado preformed admirably with the varsity soccer squad during their years's tenure at the high school. Grant is a pioneer of sorts since he rates as the first foreign student to venture into the fierce collision sport.

Arriving in Boston July 19, Grant began his stay with an opinion of the States formed through television and books. "It's pretty much how I expected it," he said. "Big, very modern and affluent is how I always have viewed the States."

Grant's hometown, located 500 miles northwest of Sydney in the eastern regions of Australia, is flat bush country. "Flat as a pancake," he says. "The temperature gets up to 114 degrees in the summer."

According to Grant, he has yet to experience snowfall and cold wintry conditions. Stick around, the squirrels are collecting the acorns already. "I'm looking forward to my first snow," he said eagerly.

Basketball and track also fill Grant's agenda for the coming academic session. He said he can highjump 6 foot 2, which should make coach Joe Modzelewski's eyes open a bit. He also plans on making boomerangs for those interested in learning to launch the curved projectile the correct way. "It's really a lot of fun once you get the hang of it," he noted.

Grant leaves his parents and two brothers in the picturesque east country to take up residence with Joe and Pat Curran of Duclos Drive, Feeding Hills. Grant commented that his new family are "marvelous" and said Agawam folk seem very hospitable and friendly. He especially admires the oak trees and hilly green surroundings of the Pioneer Valley and is anxiously awaiting the arrival of a vintage New England autumn.

What's it like hunting kangaroos? Grant was asked in closing. "Well," he answered with that fantastic accent, "I find it different and quite difficult. They're a smart animal and very quick. It's an experience."

For now, the pouched critters will have to step aside for the ones who don helmets and shoulder pads. And that's quite a challenge too.

AHS Band and Color Guard

A football team needs a good band, and the Agawam High School Band and Color Guard has proven year after year to be one of the finest marching bands in the area.

Their colorful orange and brown uniforms blend with the brilliant fall colors as they burst onto the field during halftime to display the marching skills which have brought them accolades as one of the finest marching bands in the New England area.

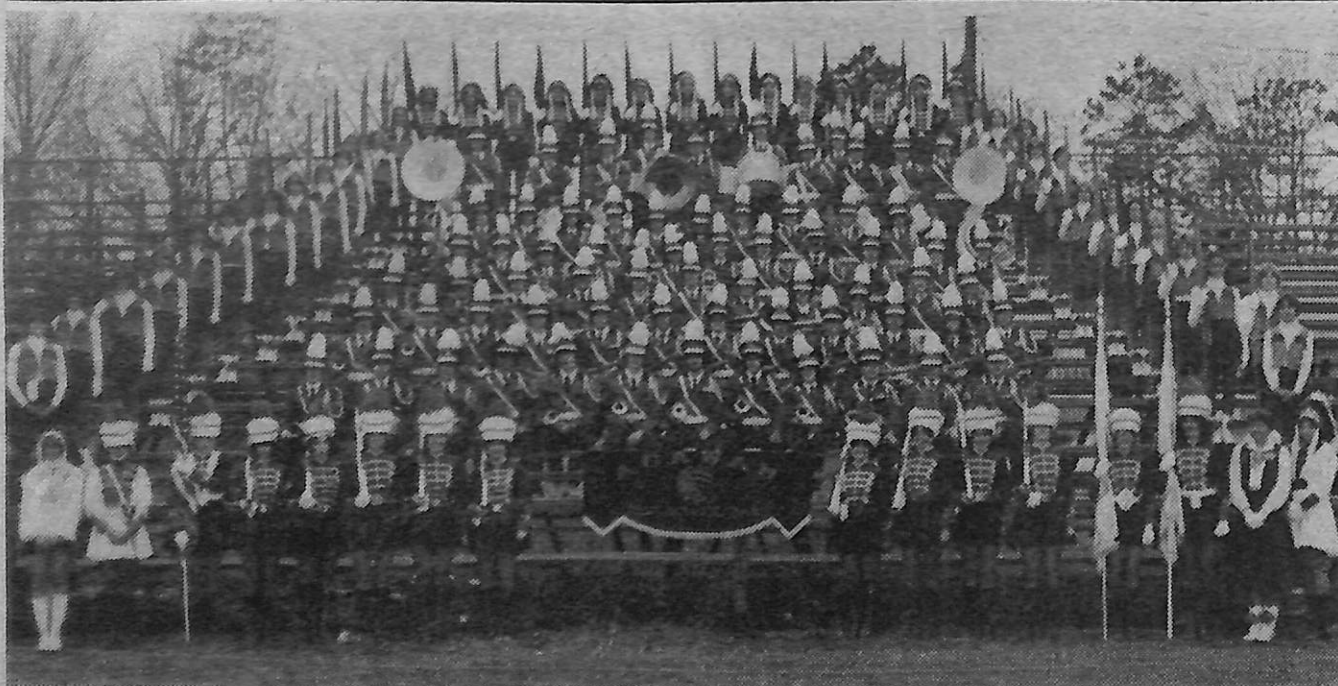
During the football games the band displays enthusiastic vocal powers along with instrumental renditions of favorite school songs keeping the spirits high and adding to the color and excitement of the game.

The band is composed of 160 members, 90 musicians, 24 sophomore flag bearers, 20 junior flag bearers, 12 rifles, 3 sabers, 4 captains, 2 drum majors, the Honor Guard and banner carriers.

Under the capable supervision of Darcy Davis the band will require well over 400 hours of practice and performance time throughout the course of a year.

Assisted by Mr. Daniel Melbourne and band and color guard student leaders the rough edges are honed during 400 hours of practice and performance time and the band emerges as a spectacular precision unit.

The band will perform Sept. 17 at Buxton for the United Way kick-off. From there they will perform twice at the Big E as well as halftime shows during football games and various parades throughout the area. Tentative plans are in progress to attend the U. Conn Band Day and "Nutmeg Cup" contest and the Mass State Marching Band Contest in Lowell.



HALFTIME FAVORITES: For many years under the direction of Darcy Davis, the Agawam High Band and Color Guard have been loyal supporters of Brownie football. Their halftime programs are second to none in this area. Intermission just wouldn't be the same without the Davis-led performers.

1979 Cheerleaders

Energy, Spirit and Teamwork

Perhaps the old verse, 'sugar and spice and everything nice' best describes Agawam's varsity cheerleading squad.

The twelve Brownie pom-pom carriers represent a combination of school spirit, bundles of seemingly ceaseless energy and a togetherness that keeps phone lines tied up each and every night.

"This is just a fun group," remarked junior co-captain Ann Abbey. We all get along very well and it shows during practice and we're sure it will show when we cheer this fall for the varsity sports."

The dozen young women began their preparation for the fall calendar at a five day cheerleading camp at Schroom Lake, a picturesque location in upper New York state. Over 200 girls representing 30 schools attended the five day session.

The camp sponsored plenty of recreation along with learning new techniques in not only the acrobatic stuff but how to ignite Brownie-watchers into a posture of spirit, spirit, spirit.

Although the camp was not competitive in nature, each squad was evaluated at the day's completion, by a skilled staff who conducted the week long list of activities. The Brownies captured two white ribbons, one red and one blue for their excellence.

Further honors reaped upon the local contingent included a pair of "spirit sticks" in recognition for sportsmanship and an award that designated the orange and brown delegates as the camp's "friendliest and most spirited."

"The camp itself was great," commented Mrs. Alberta Abbey, who accompanied the girls to the scenic site.

"The staff was excellent and it was a well planned program." Mrs. Abbey said the girls took residence in log cabins "and had to rough it at times."

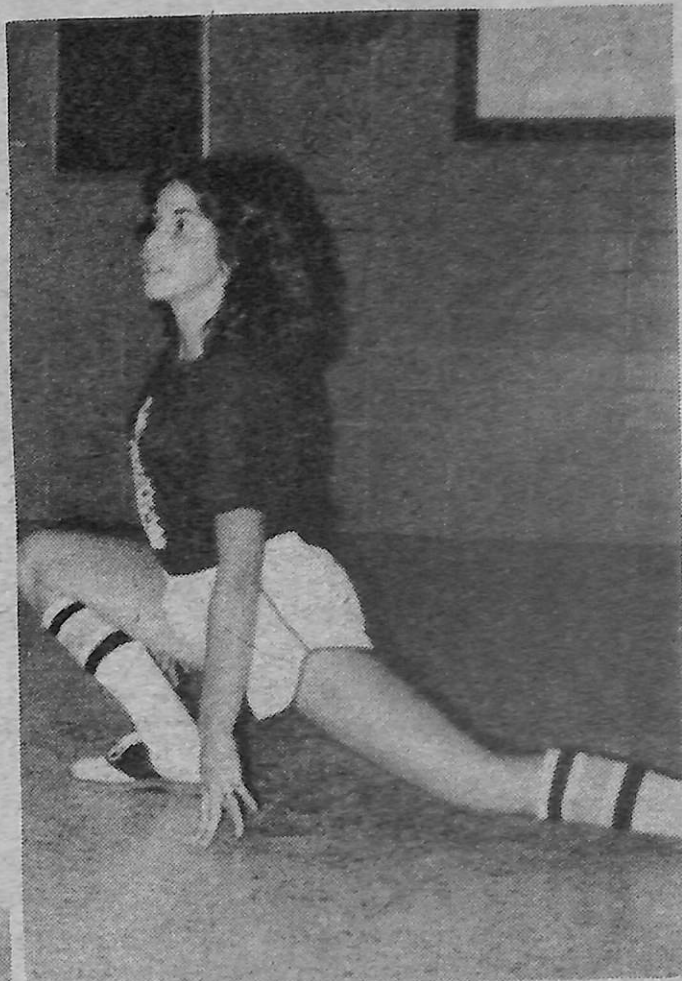
The camp, according to Miss Abbey, succeeded in jet-tisoning the squad into a cohesive unit brimming with new ideas on how to lead local partisans into the fired-up department.

"We're still working hard on our jumps, but we will try even harder to get people yelling and encouraging the team. Our goal is to bring out more spirit, especially at the rallies," she explained.

Under the watchful eye of Donna Lund, the squad's fine second year mentor, plans are being formulated to again provide the school with a number of rallies, including the traditional West Springfield "show-em whose got the most school spirit" extravaganza before the football team's Thanksgiving day clash against their arch-rivals.

Miss Abbey told us many of the present squad were under Miss Lund's guidance on the freshman level two years ago. The pom-pomers roster includes Kris Norman (co-captain), Regina Saracino, Jackie Ringuette, Lisa Shedi, Gina Ferraro, Georgia Kratimenos, Wendy Czerpak, Mary Garvey, Doreen Sardella, Nema DeMaio and Cris Liquori.

So listen here all you Brownie fanatics out there, when the band strikes up the tune "stand up and cheer for dear old Agawam," join your local ambassadors of Brownie spirit in the fun—it's what high school football is all about.



NOT BAD: Sophomore Doreen Sardella says the cheerleaders are all set for a big season leading the Brownie rooters. *Advertiser/News* photo by GAL



STAND UP AND CHEER: Agawam's 1979-80 varsity cheerleaders are (seated, L. to R.) Kris Norman, Anne Abbey, co-captains. (Kneeling) Regina Saracino, Jackie Ringuette, Lisa Shedi, Gina Ferraro. (Standing) Georgia Kratimenos, Wendy Czerpak, Mary Garvey, Doreen Sardella, Nema DeMaio, and Cris Liquori. *Advertiser/News* photo by GAL



THE MOMS: From left to right, officers of the 1979 Gridiron Mom's are: Diane Guthrie, Beverly Poggi, Noel Yacteen, Ginnie Beaudette, and Joyce Smith. photo by Jack Devine

Don't Forget Those Moms!!

"Mom, wash my uniform please. Mom, practice will be late, can you pick me up? Mom, where's my dinner? Mom, I can't do that today, the guys are counting on me."

Sound like a clip from an Erma Bombeck column? Ask any mother whose son struts his stuff every Saturday afternoon from mid September to Thanksgiving for the Agawam Brownies about the trials and tribulations of football season—Mom's job in making the season a success is an important one, but often overlooked in the thrill of victory or agony of defeat.

But service at home to the players is just one facet of a football mom's life. For over two decades they have extended their dedication through an organization that has become a special events and public relations arm of the Brownies. Without the Gridiron Moms, local football just wouldn't be the same.

The group conducted its first organizational meeting Monday night. Once again, the Moms slate an impressive list of events for the upcoming season.

The 1979 president, Noel Yacteen, said the organization will present each graduating senior with a college scholarship of \$100. "We need the community's support in our fund raising activities," Mrs. Yacteen told us. "The Moms are proud of their service to the boys over the years and without continued local interest, we would have a hard time."

Kicking off the events calendar is the annual candy sale on October 14. All players will participate, so expect a call from the home town favorites. A Monte Carlo Night, the first ever sponsored by the Moms is slated for the Polish Club on October 20.

A "Moms only" Christmas party is being planned along with the team banquet—both events are targeted for December says Beverly Poggi, the group's vice president.

"We will also be selling pennants at each game and they make nice souvenirs," Mrs. Poggi offered. The pennants, sporting the school's traditional orange and brown, is another promotional exercise by the organization, related Mrs. Poggi.

The VP urged all Gridiron Moms who missed the initial meeting to attend future sessions so the group can better prepare its calendar of events. "We are planning to send out a newsletter to each mom to let them know what is being planned and where we need the help," added Mrs. Poggi.

Rounding out the Moms executive board is Diane Guthrie, recording secretary; Ginnie Beaudette, treasurer; Joy Smith, corresponding secretary; Kay Fleming, publicity; Nancey Darnell and Cindy Negruci, telephone committee.

Editorials



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To The Editor:

I would like to take a little of your time to discuss an issue which I believe is wrong. This is the percentage-raise system.

To begin with, if a person with a salary of \$30,000 earns a 10% raise, this will boost his salary by \$3,000, making his total salary \$33,000. However, a person earning \$10,000 who receives a 10% raise will receive a mere \$1,000, making his total salary \$11,000. This is not a raise for the person earning \$11,000 per year, but actually a cut of \$2,000.

At the rate prices are rising and the value of our currency is dropping, an increase of 10% of a salary is so small it is virtually no raise at all. While on the other hand, the person earning \$30,000 - which is relatively sufficient itself - is given a raise three times that of the lower income person. Not only does this system deprive a raise in pay to those who need it most, but simultaneously greatens the gap between the classes. With this system, it is most evident that 'the rich get richer and the poor get poorer.'

I also feel, though, that jobs which involve incentive pay bonuses, and those which a \$30,000 salary is deserved, and likewise for the \$10,000 job, are fine. But the differences in pay should be kept as constant as possible.

Robert Mercadante

To The Editor:

The devastation of Hurricane David in the Dominican Republic...the continuing human misery of the "Boat People" in Southeast Asia...recent civil wars in Nicaragua and Uganda...and the looming famine in northeast India prompts this letter.

CARE is involved in each of these "disasters," and vital and effective CARE aid is reaching many hundreds of thousands of people in this time of intense human misery.

The people CARE reaches are those who simply cannot make it without outside help. Their lives were filled with "normal" misery before war or wind or water or famine took away what little they had.

CARE has a proud history of helping the poorest of the poor all around the world, and New Englanders have always shown a special generosity in their support of CARE.

Current world conditions have caused CARE to establish several "special" funds to help us provide food, shelter, tools, or medical aid to these masses of people in need.

We urge all concerned New Englanders to make a generous donation to CARE during this critical time, and if you have a special concern then just direct your gift to "hurricane Relief" or "Boat People" or "War Relief" or "Famine Fund."

Make check or money order contributions payable to CARE and send to CARE, 581 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116.

CARE is grateful for this outstanding support which New Englanders always provide.

Sincerely,

Leon M. Blum

New England Director of CARE

To The Editor:

After reading of a recent Agawam Town Council meeting. I feel I must state my views. The council voted at that meeting to give their vote of confidence to the town manager, whose educational background is nebulous.

As a working man, sending my fourth child to college, I was appalled by the decision. What value do we place on honest and costly education?

I waited this period of time before speaking out on this issue, thinking maybe my thoughts were not universal. Since then, however, after my talks with numerous citizens, I have become convinced that the vote that evening was the largest blunder this town has ever seen.

If in acting as they did, thinking maybe they were saving the manager form of government, they couldn't be further from the truth.

One of the best features of our charter allows dismissal of the manager without waiting two years for an election as would be the case with the proposed mayor-council to be voted on in November.

I sincerely hope that come November, the people of Agawam will turn out in support of the 9-man council with a manager as their best choice.

As a member of the Charter Committee and a former councilor and town meeting member, I feel qualified to urge such a vote.

Arthur W. Kerr

To the Editor:

I think it would be a good suggestion if the Town Council looked deeply into the facts on a business basis and really evaluated the prospect of having racing in Agawam. Have the Tax Assessor come up with an exact figure on what taxes we are receiving at present, and what taxes could be generated by the race track and other businesses they may introduce to help make this community sustain itself by taxes received by business.

It is a known fact that families that have children cause the taxes to go up, which is fine because this is the way of life. With all the available land that Agawam has, it seems that what we might need more than anything is a good paid consultant like many other towns have and will spend the necessary time getting this town in good shape financially.

Agawam is actually the same acreage size as Springfield, yet with as little business as we do have and relating the difference in the tax rate, it goes without question that with any increase in businesses in town, this town stands to rate high amongst the lowest taxpayers in the nation. Yes, I said nation.

If you have a group that is out to destroy the Town of Agawam by constantly fighting all efforts to bring business, it is certain they will accomplish their aim.

The name Agawam Citizens Together gives a false implication that they speak for all of the 28,000 people of Agawam. This is not true.

I believe there is a silent majority in town that are quiet, easy going, pleasant people that are hard working, busy with trying to make a living on this inflationary cycle we are in. Helping their kids through school, college, and trying to get them established in life. Many carrying two jobs. Then trying to get in a little recreation in between. Our way of life does not allow too many people to find time to go to meetings especially when they know there is going to be an anti-group there making cat calls and jeering people when they stand up to oppose their position. Knowing this most always happens, any decent person wouldn't waste their time and expose themselves to that sort of treatment. They would rather put their time to better use. Previously the Agawam Business Men's Association went on record as favoring the race track. In discussing the race track issue with many business men in town last week, I found that 90 per cent of them would like to help alleviate the TAX BURDEN in town. I believe with Councilman Barnes that the issue should be put on the ballot on an emergency basis to settle the issue. This is where the true pulse of the citizens of Agawam will come from. I also believe that many of the councilmen were button-holed in such a manner that it was difficult for them to say what their real feeling is especially when election time is around the corner. If this is the way this town is going to run then maybe we should put a limit to the term of office one could serve. In this way every one will have a turn to do their bit for the town and nobody gets too well entrenched with buddism. It is already evident that there is a good possibility that our own Senate and House of Representatives will be doing that in the not to distant future.

I wonder if the good citizens of Agawam are aware of the fact that our town has committee out looking for 200 good acres to put a new Town Hall, Fire Dept. Police Dept. and Maintenance Dept?

How do we plan on paying for that? My guess as to their answer will be "Oh, it will only cost us ten million dollars for it, but don't worry, we'll get eight million from the federal government in grants and it will only cost us two million dollars."

This is the way some of your leading councilmen are thinking already they have mentioned buying the airport industrial track via that method. Don't let anyone fool you; the federal government is US. Only it comes out of the other pocket you have.

People, there is inflation ahead; wake up and get your leaders on the ball. Don't leave it up to the other guy, because he is you. They are getting paid for their job. Make them earn it. Call them up on the phone and ask them what they are doing to help lower taxes.

I leave you with one question which I would like to have our leaders answer via this media in next week's issue.

"To date what has the new Business Industrial Commission done to get industry in the Town of Agawam?"

Deeply Concerned Citizen

To The Editor:

I would like to make comment on Mrs. Fullers crusade to correct the ills of the High School piano.

Instead of wasting more time and money on this white elephant we were sold why don't we go back to the seller and ask for a refund or have them be responsible for all charges to restore this piano. As I recall you wanted to bring suit against the mover who transported the piano from the home of the music teacher who sold it. Well, if the piano is so delicate it can be damaged in moving, no way will it ever survive the students of Agawam.

A wise man once said "never do business with relatives or friends." Lets face it, we got stuck with a piece of junk. Lets stop wasting time and money, ask the seller to refund the town's money or be responsible for putting the piano in good working condition.

J. Tortotello
27 Highland St.
Feeding Hills.

What happened to Fiscal Austerity?

by Ric Sardella

By establishing a special municipal account earmarked for the proposed youth recreation center at Danahy School, one has to wonder what our elected officials are up to.

During their many budget sessions last spring, we heard great orations of fiscal austerity, or tight walletted town government. When the Parks Department budget was cut, the Youth Center controversy erupted, the elected 15 certainly gave us the impression that tight-wadding was the order of the day.

By creating an account to fund such an enterprise, the logical sequence points to placing some \$4,000 back into Jack Kunasek's coffers for a project that remains under much suspect.

The youth rec center, according to council-at-large candidate Elaina Bonavita, would provide "street" youth with a valuable learning experience and a place to go as an alternative to dingy street corners and dark alleyways.

Ms. Bonavita has pushed, and pushed hard for this gambit, and should be commended for her concern for local youth.

But the term "street children" remains highly debatable in our nice suburban community. Indeed, it remains debatable in a town that provides its youth with more sports and clubs than any other in the area.

But the council with their September 4 action has ignored these facts and have contradicted their overwhelming concern for the general reserve fund. By turning the other cheek, which is what they did (since just one week earlier at a workshop session many of these same men seemingly put a red light on the proposal), I was left wondering where to place a "vote for me" sticker.

And what will happen after the 14 week trial run? Will the town be stuck paying another \$4,000 for the second trial run?? And another four grand for a third??? Wonder what other local organizations that serve the young are thinking---those who could also use extra bucks, I'm sure.

At least some councilors maintained some form of constancy in this matter of taking and then re-allocating money into the Parks Department budget. Councilor Paul Fieldstad, who has been criticized previously in this space for sponsoring Parks Department cuts - i.e. shutting off all lights on town tennis courts and Borgatti Park facilities, stuck by his guns and refused to vote for something that should have been forwarded during budget hearings.

And fortunately, Town Manager Peter Caputo put a lid on the proposal by stating he would not support a transfer of funds, an authority that the town charter provides him in this instance.

Caputo says he will not back down, and this being the case, the town will save some valuable tax dollars.

To The Editor:

After reading about controversy concerning the new school superintendent, I have begun to wonder. Can't our town officials do anything right?

Joseph Rolland

Candidate for Councilman
Precinct One

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

September 15, 1979

Tag Sale

Sept 11, 1979

Flower Show

Agawam Garden Club Cr. South & Main St
Capt. Leonard House
7 P.M.

Sept. 17

Agawam catholic Women's
St. John's Social Center
8 PM

Sept. 19

Phelps P.T.O.
Phelps School
8 PM

Sept. 18

Agawam Jr. Women's Club
Capt. Leonard House
8 PM

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Sports



Pictured above are the Agawam Athletic Association girls 14 and under, soccer champs slated to participate in the East Coast Soccer Tournament. Left to right, first row, Kelly Slamon, Jennifer O'Brien, Pam Rowen, Katie Slamon, Lena Kozlowski, Debbie Dalton, and Maria Kozloski. Second row, left to right, Lisa Chevalier, Diane Goodman, Sue Ellen Goehlert, Lee Ann Sandlin, Linda Desmarais, Karen Albano, and Julie Miodowski. Photo by GAL

Vote!! Vote!! Vote!!
DOM CANDIDO
COUNCILOR AT LARGE
 Voted For In All Precincts
 Primary Day, October 2nd
 Paid For By: Joanne Candido, 40 Ley St., Agawam

AAA Girls Soccer Slated To Participate In Tourney

The Agawam Athletic Association girls 14 and under soccer team, Pioneer Valley League champion for the last two years, has been invited to Arlington, Virginia to participate in the East Coast Soccer Tournament. Teams from Miami to Maine will be represented in all age groups for both boys and girls soccer. The tournament will be held on the 23rd, 24th, and 25th of November.

The Agawam Athletic Team will represent the New England area in their respective age group. The participants on the Agawam Athletic Association soccer team are girls from the AAA soccer leagues.

Some \$1,600 will have to be raised by the Agawam Athletic Association to send the girls to Arlington, Virginia. The Association had a car wash last Saturday which was very successful and they are accepting donations from individuals and/or organizations.

Donations should be sent to: Sandra Kozak, Finance Board Chairman, Bradford Drive, Feeding Hills, and should read AAA Tournament Fund.

The Association is running a second fund raiser which will be a Monte Carlo Night to be held at the Polish American Club Pavilion on Friday, November 16th. The Association will be selling tickets around town for the Monte Carlo Night during the next month. If you are interested in going please call: Bill O'Brien team coach at 789-0448.

Sarat Ford Sign-Up

Ages

8 - 13



Ends September 20, 1979

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH

Rain Date, September 23rd

Sportsmen's Corner

by Bill Chiba



The deer situation looks very promising in Southern Vermont this year. The reason for this prediction is a personal scouting excursion last Sunday.

Bill Duncan, Bill Jr., Bob Couture from Feeding Hills and Bill's hunting buddy Al Tazanari from Conn. and yours truly headed to Vermont early Sunday morning. We scouted areas in Wardsboro, Dover, Newfane, Jamacia and South Wardsboro. I haven't hunted these areas since the late 50's. This influx of many hunters drove many of us pioneers farther north in Vermont.

The deer sign is plentiful. There are acorns scattered throughout the forest. We ran into quite a few beech trees that were producing mast this year. Bear sign was noted in three of the places we visited. There is an abundance of wild apples and the deer are starting to visit the trees now. The main feed at the moment is mushrooms, and the woods are loaded with them.

Bear season opens the 15th of Sept. and from what we saw and heard from the local residents, there are plenty of bruins around. So sharpen up those broadheads, sight in your rifle and head north.

The Fisheries and Wildlife Board confirmed the appointment to Superintendent of the Bureau of Wildlife Research and Management of the Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife of Carl Prescott of Stow. He has a big job following Dick Cronin who is now the new Director of the Fish and Game.

As Superintendent, Prescott will have the supervisory responsibility for all the Division's field operations including a staff of research biologists and others involved in support services. He will also have the responsibility for operations at the divisions five wildlife districts, five fish hatcheries and three game farms.

The United States Bare Bow National Tournament was held Labor Day week-end at the Springfield Sportmen Club. Four Agawam Bowmen members returned with National Trophies. They were John Rock, 1st in the bowhunters 250 class; Jim Blair, 1st in the bowhunters 175 class; Edythe Chiba, 3rd in the women's 175 class and Bill Chiba 1st in the men's 325 class.

The Agawam Bowmen Club is holding its annual Championship Tournament and Picnic Sept. 23rd. Members wishing to attend the affair should notify the Sec. Ed Dessereau at his home on Karen Lynn Drive, Feeding Hills as soon as possible. Final plans must be made for the affair.

Fishing is picking up at Otis Res. Mark Poirer has been doing fabulous this past week. Evidently the Division has done its fall stocking. If you have never fished in the fall try it. You will be in for a treat. The water is usually calm and the fish are full of vim and vigor. Contrary to what you hear. Use hardware just like you do in the spring. The trout will hit them at random. Shimmer flies and the old standbys will also produce. I think I will give it a try before the hunting fever takes me over completely. We need a few trout in the freezer for the long winter night. See you there.

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by Charles Duclos

Good Work Rewarded

Two Agawam residents were recently recognized for their outstanding performance of duties while working in this year's Summer Youth Program, which provides jobs for disadvantaged young people. Darlene Forgetta and Shiela Ducharme received plaques from Springfield's mayor, Theodore Dimauro, and Hampden County Manpower Consortium's director, Frank Galluni, during impressive ceremonies, conducted at the Consortium offices in Springfield.

Each community involved in this year's project was requested to nominate two candidates to receive the award. Paul Cavallo, Agawam's Summer Youth Program director, and his staff selected Darlene and Shiela out of a field of approximately 50 workers. A board of judges from the Consortium screened the finalists' qualifications and work records before announcing their decisions.

The chief custodian at our high school, Carmen Rossi, also received plaudits from the Consortium as the site supervisor at the girls' work location. Involved in general maintenance at the school, Darlene and Shiela helped to ease the burden of the regular maintenance staff in the monumental task of preparing the buildings for the September opening.

Students upon returning to school this year might have noticed that their classrooms and other facilities were a little neater thanks to the efforts of these two young ladies, as well as the regular staff at A.H.S. and at the other schools in our town.

Merits Medal

Mrs. Sharon Baldarelli will be honored Sunday by the parishoners of St. Anthony of Padua Church for her long service and devotion to duty as a teacher in the church's Confraternity of Christian Doctrine program. At the 8:30 Mass, Mrs. Baldarelli will be presented with the Pope Pius X Medallion, as recognition for this voluntary achievement. Rev. Joseph Fellin, rector at St. Anthony's will preside.

On Sunday evening a smorgasboard will be held at St.

Thomas Hall in West Springfield to honor all recipients from throughout the area.

Mrs. Bardarelli, as many of you know, is also very active in volunteering her services and attending to many of our town's athletic programs, which serve our youth. Presently she is the vice president of the Agawam Soccer Parents Association.

Congrats, Mrs. B. Also, HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!!

A.A.A. Car Wash Cleans Up

Last week we pleaded for your assistance in helping to make the Girl's 13-14 Soccer Team's car wash a success. It is a pleasure to announce that our townsfolk rose to the occasion and turned out in banner numbers to support another group under the sponsorship of the Agawam Athletic Association.

The 8th turned out to be a beautiful, late summer day and the girls, assisted by their coach, Bill O'Brien, and spurred on by the 3A's director, Jerry Mason, washed at least a million (at least it seemed that way) cars between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Some parents also showed up and lent their encouraging words like, "Don't forget to wash the hub-caps!" "Move faster, girls!" "Use more elbow grease!" etc. Joanne O'Brien, Joanna Duclos, Lou Miodowski, Marie Goodman, Theresa Kozloski, Doug and Dolly Chevalier, Colleen Dalton, Dave and Barbara Quaglini and son, Craig, and C.J.D. got a little nervous watching the kids and rolled up their sleeves to wash and rinse cars, and hawk customers off the street for the event.

O'B, Jerry, and the girls are most grateful to all—especially those of you who deposited a Susan B. Anthony or a George Washington in the coffers to help defray expenses for the team's trip to Virginia to play in an invitational soccer tournament at Arlington in November.

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Environmental Study A Must

Bryan Nicholas, an official for the UMass Economic Development Department, stated to the committee that the town is well on its way to formulating a proposal, even at this early stage. But he did state that the town must conduct an environmental economic study before any agency, state or federal, would allocate funds to revitalize the airport.

Said Nichols, "This study must be done by the town and it could run into thousands of dollars if a consultant was brought in. But this is a key step in attaining any funding assistance."

According to the UMass Economic spokesman, the community must also fulfill a number of requirements before the state will accept Bowles Airport into the state airport system.

Seven Step Outline

The UMass delegate presented the committee with a seven step outline that must be followed in order to be a recognized municipal airport. The Massachusetts Aeronautical Commission has final inspection authority to see if Bowles meets the minimum requirements for inclusion in the state system, Nichols said.

While the committee hashed through the red tape involved in the process, ideas about turning the site into a thriving industrial-air park were abundant.

Member Dale Melanson, who has been researching the industrial-air park concept since last may, said the Bowles site "could be a one of a kind" if the committee

takes an aggressive posture during its fact finding study.

Lukas said the single runway could be expanded from its present 2,800 feet to 4,000 feet with an added taxiway to adjacent buildings. He said any new aviation structures could be placed where the existing grandstand now is located. The grandstand, said Lukas, would be torn down.

Perfect Location

All committee members described the site as a perfect location for such an enterprise. Related Fieldstad, "This could be the most significant thing to come before this community in years."

Other members concurred. Explained William Cook, "The town would benefit from taxes and would grow economically without placing added burdens on homeowners." He added, "If we lose this airport for one reason or another, we'll never get it back, its gone."

Stated member John Rosati, "This airport would not be competing with any other area airport. It would benefit Agawam and neighboring communities and that's important in the overall picture."

Fieldstad said he would seek town architect Alfred Casella to discuss the possibility of putting together a number of blue prints about the site's future possibilities.

The committee will also ask support from U.S. Representative Silvio Conte, State Representative Edward Connelly and State Senator Alan Sisitsky to help secure federal and state funding.

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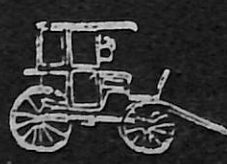
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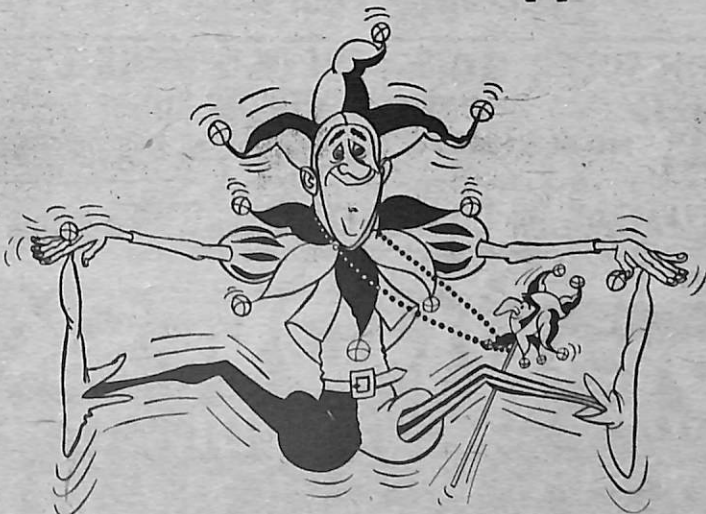
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continued from page 1

Stricter Max-Ed Policy Adopted

In other business that night, the School Committee formally adopted a stricter policy governing the Max-Ed program at Agawam High emphasizing that the program is a privilege not a right of the students. A key section of the new regulations notes that at the second unexcused absence from school, a student will be taken off the program. Also, at the third unexcused tardiness, the same will occur. In essence, according to Acting Superintendent James Bruno, this new ruling permits only one day of "skipping school," and if the student skips again, he is off the Max-Ed program. Also included in the stricter regulations is one requirement of a grade of "C" or better in all subjects including physical education. These grades must hold for each marking period and cannot be an accumulative "C" average. In order to qualify for the Max-Ed program, students must be involved in some acceptable work program, extra-curricular school activity, or must give 30 hours of voluntary service to the school or community during each marking period. Committee member Walter Balboni, who has previously declared his disenchantment with the entire Max-Ed program, made the motion to accept the tightening of the regulations. The motion passed 6-0. Included in the new policy is a review of it in its entirety in January of 1980. Students under Chapter 766 are to be dealt with on an individual basis by the administration.

Changes Made In Personnel

In the area of personnel, the committee voted to hire

Diane Blockland as an aide in special education at Phelps and Joan Kelloog to act in a similar capacity at the Middle School. Kenneth Roberts was voted the position as Junior Varsity boys soccer coach. Business Manager James Coon gave a rather lengthy presentation of a change in enrollment predictions prior to recommending an overall hiring of 3 1/2 aides within the system. Concern at the first grade level was greatest, according to Coon. An estimated 33 first graders throughout town actually turned out to be 338. He is still seeking an explanation for this "significant difference," but feels it's probably due to new people moving to town who just happen to have first graders. An overall recommendation was presented for one fulltime aide to function at the first and fourth grade levels at Danahy, one at the first and third grades at both Granger and Clark, and a 1/2-day aide at the first grade level at Robinson. The kindergarten teachers presently at Granger and Robinson, who now teach one session for only half the day, have been hired to serve as aides in their respective schools for the other half of the day. Gloria Jean Schreiber was hired for Granger and LeeAnn Hart for Robinson. A review of applicants will take place and recommendations to fill the other positions will be presented at the next meeting of the School Committee to be held on September 25. A final note of business involved accepting the proposal by Athletic Director Cliff Kibbe to allow the varsity football team to participate in any playoff game for which they might qualify and also to continue the policy of bussing the entire team to all away games.

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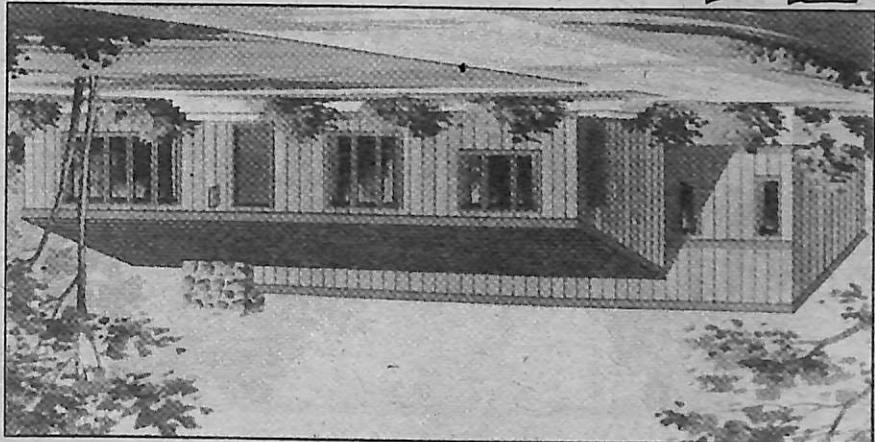
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